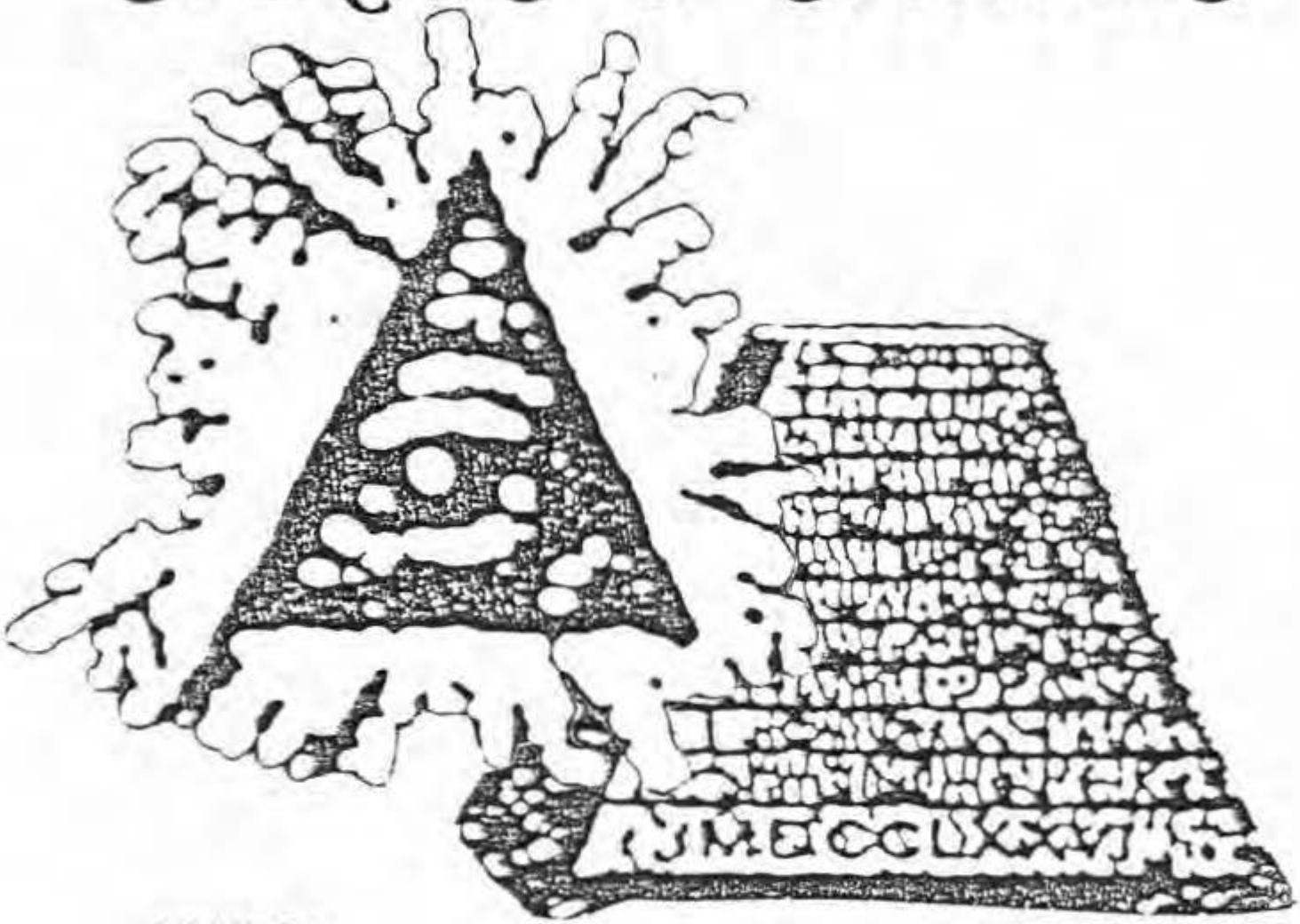
# Conspiracy!

STEAMSHOVEL PRESS NUMBER FOUR 1992

# CARIES & CABALS



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*Dedicated to Wilhelm Reich, whose intelligence shines like a beacon through the decades.*

# — CARIES, CABALS & CORRESPONDENCE —

*From 1985:*

You probably know by now that the police are burning down my hometown, "America's most livable city." It's a plot—Philadelphia is overstaffed with Yuppie architects who needed a new neighborhood to design. Everybody gets a share in the profits, including Kelly (Grace) Construction. It's just a shame that Philadelphia's newest neighborhood will be peopled by them Africans. Seem to recall the mayor himself is an African - hmmm...the plot thickens.

If you don't know what I'm talking about, find a newspaper quickly! The police moved in on an organization of black leftist extreme crazies who called themselves MOVE. MOVE always refuses to move, by the way. This is a repeat of a similar scenario in 1978. After a two hour morning shoot-out and an afternoon recess, the police used a helicopter to drop a bomb on a "pill-box" type contrivance on the roof, loaded with explosives. They didn't "know" it was full of explosives - but as they themselves are always telling us, primeval ignorance is no defence under the law.

The contingent conflagration burned down three city blocks! About four blacks away from the house of my childhood, 1950-1954. If this is the way Philadelphia treats the domesticated, you can imagine its hospitality to the homeless. Anyway, the mayor has pledged to rebuild the entire neighborhood in one year. Business is booming if you want to get in on the ground floor.

*-Roy Lisker, Berkeley, CA*

On a fairly bad but certainly interesting day in 1988, Vice President George Bush came to town, gave a twenty minute speech at Catholic Central High School gym which I and at least 1500 other people missed. After complaining to the local newspaper about me and the 1500, the paper lied on the front page saying that 2000 people got in. I think the gym could only hold 250-400 people. It was a ridiculous, mindless lie.

The kicker came when I stepped on a bus full of reporters following Bush around as he gives the same speech over and over again and demanded them to tell me why no one would investigate whether or not Elvis Presley was alive. They all *assumed* he was dead and thus would not even investigate the possibility that he was alive.

The bus driver smiled a smile I have seen ten thousand times before, and my last words to the reporters before the door shut were: "And I'm being shut out again!" The reason was not the idea that Elvis is alive and hiding someplace, it was the refusal of the reporters to think about anything.

When the possibility of a major celebrity or personality still being alive somehow, it's usually incredibly fascinating to me. If someone at a supermarket in Kalamazoo, Michigan *thought* she saw Elvis Presley, there are at least three possibilities: 1. Hoax; 2. Misidentification; 3. Elvis is alive. Instead, this has become a tabloid-centered national joke.

When the book **Elvis Is Alive** appeared a few years back, it included a tape of someone who sounded like Elvis Presley. Now voiceprinting that tape would not be difficult, but it hasn't been done and probably won't be. The only research I've read so far is that the **Detroit News** denied that a witness (now dead) had ever been employed as a reporter, and that the actress playing the witness on television's **The Elvis Files** was far younger than the 61 year old reporter. And that is it. Period. No one will think.

The Elvis estate probably loves this hollow humbug whipping up a money-producing Elvis frenzy.

*-X. Sharks DeSpot, Lansing, MI*

When the Reagan biography hit the stands suddenly there's a sex scandal surrounding the Kennedys. Once more Ted is a whipping boy and the yellow press even has stories that JFK is still alive and not very pleased and so on. Isn't it amazing they can not only kill a person but they resurrect him whenever the need arises. We also see that Ted is more important as a whipping boy than dead and martyred.

As odd as it sounds, I think the tabloids are a means of manipulating public thought. They are cheap. They are stocked where the public can read them while standing in line. Because of the outlandish nature of the news they print people pretend not to take them seriously, yet they imprint ideas like JFK being alive and in support of the war in the Middle East, putting Bush on the same level as, say, JFK and the Cuban Missile Crisis.

*-Louis Krasser, Springfield, MO*

*"We were young, we were reckless, arrogant, silly, headstrong...and we were right! I regret* ***nothing.***"

*-Abbie Hoffman's last public words*
*Vanderbilt University, April 4, 1989*

# TALES OF ABBIE HOFFMAN!

**Jack Hoffman interviewed by Kenn Thomas and Phil Gounis**

The publication of **Live This Book** by Theodore Becker and Anthony L. Dodson (The Noble Press, 1991, $8.95) occasioned the following interview with Jack Hoffman, brother of the late Yippie, Abbie Hoffman. **Live This Book** is the first book since Abbie Hoffman's death to deal with the legacy of his life. It's a slim volume that restates the obvious about Abbie, that he was an engaged and gregarious political critic with a tremendously insightful sense of humor and a flair for guerilla theatre. But the book also characterizes Abbie Hoffman as someone who "matured" into an ecological outlook similar to that of the Green Party in Europe, hence the subtitle, "Abbie Hoffman's Philosophy for a Free and Green America."

That approach covers the two most successful aspects of Abbie's last years, cleaning up the riverways in the Hudson Valley and stopping the CIA from recruiting on college campuses in western Massachusetts. Becker and Dodson stop short of calling these successes Abbie's crowning achievements, but the book is revisionist

enough to relegate guerilla theatre to the dustbin of Abbie's baby days and gives short shrift to his essence, the style and substance of which is certainly not limited to courtroom battles. Abbie Hoffman inspired a generation to say what it felt and do what it wanted and not to be bullied by oppressive social and political constraints.

**Live This Book** also inaccurately depicts Abbie's unrepentant disposition in his final years and ignores the plans he had when he died, including reprinting of his '60s works, like **Steal This Book**, and his research involving the 1980 October Surprise of the Reagan-Bush campaign. Although the authors rightly admit that it would have been impossible for Abbie himself to easily summarize his own political philosophy, there was nothing enigmatic about the fact that, to the end, he was a fuck-the-system hell-raiser. Since **Live This Book** seems intended for undergraduate political science classes, it is perhaps small wonder that it transforms that philosophy to one of changing the system from within.

Jack Hoffman wrote the introduction to **Live This Book**, and although flattered by the portrait it paints of his brother, he shares some misgivings about it. Questions still surround Abbie Hoffman's death and part of brother Jack's crusade in promoting this book has been to assuage suspicions that it was a murder and to convey the conviction that manic depression caused Abbie Hoffman's suicide. But Abbie was no stranger to conspiracy theories, and neither is Jack: both have researched the secret machinations of the October surprise long before it became political fodder. Veteran peace activist Dave Dellinger believes Abbie Hoffman was killed, and real questions remain: is it possible to lift another hundred phenobarbitals after swallowing a handful or so? Was Huey Newton's death in the same month as Abbie's merely a coincidence? Are ex-CIA agents Philip Agee and John Stockwell just being cranky when they talk about U.S. government pogroms of domestic assassination?

Veteran peace activist Dave Dellinger believes Abbie Hoffman was killed, and real questions remain: is it possible to lift another hundred phenobarbitals after swallowing a handful or so?

Jack Hoffman has answered these questions to his satisfaction, although he's not so sure if Abbie's October Surprise article is an important posthumous salvo from Abbie aimed at the Bush administration or a simple rifling through of information that was already public. The questions about Abbie's death still get asked, however, partly because Abbie might have asked them himself. But perhaps it is presumptuous to expect Jack Hoffman to have his brother's confrontational perspective as it is to expect anyone's text book to recapture the living Abbie.

**Q: Do you think that the CIA killed Abbie?**

**A:** No.

**Q: You don't?**

**A:** It's interesting. I'm asked that question quite a bit and I can understand that because from a lot of us who have been on the left side of the fence you can understand our cynicism about that and our distrust of the CIA. So from people maybe like yourself, or people like Dave Dellinger who feels that the CIA might have been behind the killing of Abbie, I can understand the cynicism.

I can tell you this, and it doesn't go over big with a lot of people, Abbie was a manic depressive and if people understand a lot about manic depression they'll understand his death. That's why I came public with it, for which I received a lot of criticism within the family itself. And when people just understand more about manic depression they'll understand his death.

There is no doubt about it, there were two hundred phenobarbitals in his system and boom. And I don't see any reason why the CIA would want to put Abbie out at this point in time. There were other times (laughs) when they might have wanted to put Abbie out. And I think giving them credit is wrong. I don't think that they're as good as people think they are. That's my personal opinion of the CIA.

**Q: If Abbie did commit suicide then, how do we see that in terms of evaluating what his life is all about? I don't think that diminishes anything that he did, but do you? Do you think it puts some kind of...**

**A:** What, the suicide? No, not at all.

**Q: Yeah, a suicide. Does it tarnish anything that he stood for?**

**A:** No, no, not at all. It just manifests the pain he lived with all these years. And he tried to cover over for that pain and the pain became so great that eventually...

This is an individual that loved life and wanted to live. He just in the end couldn't live any longer. Serious depression is a very serious problem, obviously, and if you understand it then you understand his death. I don't believe that it should have any reflection upon on his life and the things that he accomplished and the battles that he fought, not in the least bit. I mean there's a lot of great leaders that were manic depressives and a lot of great people that died, you know, killed themselves, from it.

**Q: Was the suit that Abbie and Amy Carter brought against the CIA completely resolved at the time of Abbie's death?**

**A:** Oh, sure.

**Q: Is Amy Carter continuing that suit?**

**A:** No, no. They didn't sue the CIA. I think that is a misunderstanding. They were brought to trial for trespassing on the University of Massachusetts campus. Instead of making it a simple trial of trespassing, they turned it into a case against the CIA where they were able to prove that

they committed a crime in order to prevent another crime from happening. The necessity defense, as it's commonly known, it's recognized in Massachusetts. And, for example, they committed a crime to prevent someone else from committing another crime that may be greater, that being the CIA. And they were able to prove that in court and they were found innocent. They were the defendants, they weren't the plaintiffs in the action, but there was nothing that came from that trial other than that.

**Q: Not to belabor the point, but like you said, you're getting questions about it so let me just ask you one more question...**

**A:** Go ahead.

**Q: ... at one point Abbie had written an article for *Playboy* about the October surprise thing that is so current in the news now. Abbie reported to Dave Dellinger that he got into an accident trying to deliver the manuscript and he felt that the brakes had been tampered with and then there were questions about the autopsy, that there was a delay in actually releasing the information about the phenobarbital and the alcohol and other suspicions. But there's nothing to any of this?**

**A:** Nothing. I'm going to answer a lot of these questions. I have a book that will be out in about another year and I'm getting from you vibes that the public wants to hear more about his death. So I believe that I'm going to write a lot about it so I hope...I don't think that I'll ever put it to bed but I hope I can to some degree.

You know, that accident. I can tell you he was eating an ice cream and he rolled into a truck. It was just that: an accident. The evidence on that particular article I was holding a

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I was asked a question by a reporter several months ago about how Abbie would feel about the war, wouldn't he be excited and all this kind of thing. And I said my brother probably would have been sorry that he didn't put himself off this planet two years sooner.

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duplicate copy in case something did happen to him. A lot of what he had the CIA knew. It was out there. It was public information. So he didn't have any bombshell or any smoking gun in that particular article.

I myself have picked up on that story and I'm working on it everyday right now. A lot of information I've fed to Congressional aides. I'm glad you brought the subject up because there is going to be a Congressional hearing I believe in October. It will be another October surprise, I believe.

**Q: So you're actually carrying on the research about the October surprise...**

**A:** Yeah. I worked on some of that prior, with Abbie, on that particular article, and Jonathan Silvers wrote a lot of it. So I mean, if you want to talk about that...

**Q: OK, we can get back to that. I just want to cover this whole thing about how Abbie died so we can get on and discuss the book and discuss how Abbie lived for the most part. The last question that I want to ask you about how he died concerns another current theory: that the drugs themselves brought on the suicide, a side effect of the drugs. Now what you're saying is that the pain and struggle that Abbie went through all his life. . .that this is a genuine depression, a genuine suicide, not one that was exacerbated by chemicals.**

**A:** Chemicals can augment the depression. There's no doubt about that. If you drink or smoke or do drugs or anything, I mean, those things can contribute to depression. We know that. I recommend William Styron's book. He pretty much explains about deep depression and what happens to you. As a matter of fact, in his original article, he talked about Abbie's death.

I know what you're talking about. You're talking about the Prozac in particular. We could spend an hour on that particular subject. I've been asked to be Phil Donahue. I've been asked by the Scientology group to get involved in their battle which I want nothing to do with, but I'll explain more about the Prozac issue in the book. It's tough to do it in a couple of minutes.

**Q: OK.**

**A:** There's no proof, I can tell you this, that Abbie was on Prozac at that particular time.

**Q: OK. Unless there is anything else that you want to say on this topic we will leave it right now and go on.**

**A:** No, but it is interesting that people are concerned but here we are, we've spent half the conversation on that and I mean I think that we should talk about Abbie's legacy. I think Abbie's really happy about the fact that they're going to start talking about the October surprise. I think that he would be really excited about that.

You know, I was asked a question by a reporter several months ago about how Abbie would feel about the war, wouldn't he be excited and all this kind of thing. And I said my brother probably would have been sorry that he didn't put himself off this planet two years sooner.

**Q: (laughter)**

**A:** You know? It wasn't exactly exciting.

**Q: Let's talk a little bit about this book that you've written an introduction for. It's called *Live This Book* and its authors are Theodore Becker and Anthony L. Dodson and it's published by the Noble Press. Do you agree with what they say in the book?**

**A:** I have to tell you this: I read the this book about three or four months ago, when I was approached by Teddy Becker originally about it I was a little bit skeptical. You know, concerning the fact that they were from Auburn University, and I said why don't you send me the manuscript and let me read it and see what I think and, of course, I started to read and I said, "Oh God, that's not my brother," you know, because I'm his brother. I mean, no one sees his brother as any great political philosopher in life. I mean, it's very hard for me. I see him as just a brother and a good friend. It's interesting.

The book gives Abbie... it's about time somebody gives him the credit that he justifiably deserves in life. And that's what I feel. I mean, it's hard to get in the book. . .they make a case for it, especially in the last part, but to say that my brother is in the ranks of Thoreau, I'm almost embarrassed about it, you know?

I think that this is a great book for academia to take up and discuss around the table. I think that it would be good for that.

**Q: In reading the book, my concern was that. . .and they were drawing a lot of analogies with to Mark Twain, to Will Rogers, to Charlie Chaplin and having seen Abbie and seen him speak, being inspired by watching him perform, essentially, my real fear was that this might be the first attempt to fossilize Abbie, to put him into some kind of category and put him on a shelf for academia. Does that agree with you at all?**

**A:** Sure, sure.

**Q: So how did you get involved with writing the introduction?**

**A:** They approached me to write something and I told them at the time that it was kind of difficult. It is kind of difficult, especially about the book. What can I say about the book? It's flattering to my brother, obviously. I must admit at times that I'm almost embarrassed by it, like I said. I said to them, "I don't think that I'm the right guy to be writing anything about the book."

**Q: Did either of them know Abbie?**

**A:** One of them had met Abbie. That's exactly how they felt about Abbie. I think that it's wonderful that people do think this about him. I think it's great. Abbie did dedicate his life to a lot of these causes.

There is only one individual that they left out. That's my criticism of the book. And that's Lenny Bruce.

**Q: Lenny Bruce!**

**A:** Yeah. My brother always felt that he was the reincarnation of Lenny Bruce. I felt.

**Q: They didn't mention Lenny. They've got Will Rogers in there, but they didn't mention Lenny Bruce.**

**A:** They do not mention Lenny Bruce.

**Q: Yeah. That's an oversight. . .and a big one.**

**A:** A big one--a damn big one. I mean, Lenny Bruce went the same way. Bye bye American Pie. But it's a good book to read and discuss it, but I'm no one to sit on one side or the other to be a judge of it. I should be asking you that question.

# *The Role of Richard Nixon and George Bush In The Assassination of President Kennedy*

by Paul Kangas

A newly discovered FBI document reveals that George Bush was directly involved in the 1963 murder of President John Kennedy. The document places Bush working with the now famous CIA agent, Felix Rodriguez, recruiting right-wing Cuban exiles for the invasion of Cuba. It was Bush's CIA job to organize the Cuban community in Miami for the invasion. The Cubans were trained as marksmen by the CIA. Bush at that time lived in Texas. Hopping from Houston to Miami weekly, Bush spent 1960 and '61 recruiting Cubans in Miami for the invasion. That is how he met Felix Rodriguez.

You may remember Rodriguez as the Iran-*contra* CIA agent who received the first phone call telling the world the CIA plane flown by Gene Hasenfus had crashed in Nicaragua. As soon as Rodriguez heard that the plane crashed, he called his long-time CIA supervisor, who was now Vice President, George Bush. Bush denied being in the *contra* loop, but investigators recently obtained copies of Oliver North's diary, which documents Bush's role as a CIA supervisor of the *contra* supply network.

In 1988 Bush told Congress he knew nothing about the illegal supply flights until 1987, yet North's diary shows Bush at the first planning meeting Aug. 6, 1985. Bush's "official" log placed him somewhere else. Such double sets of logs are intended to hide Bush's real role in the CIA; to provide him with "plausible deniability." The problem is, it fell apart because too many people, like North and Rodriguez, have kept records that show Bush's CIA role back to the 1961 invasion of Cuba. (Source: *The Washington Post*, 7-10-90)

That is exactly how evidence was uncovered placing George Bush working with Felix Rodriguez when JFK was killed. A memo from FBI head J. Edgar Hoover was found, stating that, "Mr George Bush of the CIA" had been briefed on November 23rd , 1963 about the reaction of anti-Castro Cuban exiles in Miami to the assassination of President Kennedy. (Source: *The Nation*, 8-13-88)

On the day of the assassination, Bush was in Texas, but he denies knowing exactly where he was. Since he had been the supervisor for the secret Cuban teams, headed by former Cuban police commander Felix Rodriguez, since 1960, it is likely Bush was also in Dallas in 1963. Several of the Cubans he was supervising as dirty-tricks teams for Nixon, were photographed in the Zapruder film.

In 1959 Rodriguez was a top cop in the Cuban government under Batista. When Batista was overthrown and fled to Miami, Rodriguez went with him, along with Frank Sturgis and Rafael Quintero. Officially, Rodriguez didn't join the CIA until 1967, after the CIA invasion of Cuba, in which he participated, and the assassination of JFK. But

records recently uncovered show he actually joined the CIA in 1961 for the invasion of Cuba when he was recruited by George Bush. This is how Rodriguez claims he became a "close, personal friend of Bush."

Then "officially" Rodriguez claims he quit the CIA in 1976, just after he was sent to prison for his role in the Watergate burglary. However, according to *Rolling Stone* reporters Kohn & Monks (Nov. 3, 1988), Rodriguez still goes to CIA headquarters monthly to receive assignments and have his blue 1987 bulletproof Cadillac serviced. Rodriguez was asked by a *Rolling Stone* reporter where he was the day JFK was shot, and he claims he can't remember.

George Bush claims he never worked for the CIA until he was appointed Director, by former Warren Commission director and then President Jerry Ford, in 1976. Logic suggests that is highly unlikely. Of course, Bush has a company duty to deny being in the CIA. The CIA is a secret organization. No one ever admits to being a member. The truth is that Bush has been a top CIA official since before the 1961 invasion of Cuba, working with Felix Rodriguez. Bush may deny his actual role in the CIA, but there are records in the files of Rodriguez and others involved in the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba that expose Bush's role. The corporations would not put somebody in charge of all state secrets held by the CIA unless he was experienced and well trained in the CIA. (Source: *Project Censored Report*, Feb. 1989, Dr. Carl Jensen, Sonoma State College)

According to the biography of Richard Nixon, his close personal and political ties with the Bush family go back to 1941, when Nixon claims he read an ad in an L.A. newspaper, placed by a wealthy group of businessmen, led by Preston Bush, the father of George Bush. They wanted a young, malleable candidate to run for Congress. Nixon applied for the position and won the job. Nixon became a mouthpiece for the Bush group. (Source: *Freedom* magazine, 1986, L. F. Prouty) In fact, Preston Bush is credited with creating the winning ticket of Eisenhower-Nixon in 1950. (Source: *George Bush*, F. Green, Hipocrene, 1988)

Richard Nixon was Vice President from 1956 until 1960. In fact, Nixon was given credit for planning *Operation 40*, the secret 1961 invasion of Cuba, during his 1959 campaign for President. After Batista was kicked out by the starving people of Cuba, and Fidel Castro came to power, Castro began telling American corporations they would now have to pay Cuban employees decent wages. Even worse, Pepsi-Cola was told it would now have to pay world market prices for Cuban sugar.

Pepsi, Ford Motor Co., Standard Oil and the Mafia drug dealers decided Fidel had to be removed since his policies of requiring corporations to pay market wages was hurting their profits. So the corporations asked then-Vice President Nixon to remove Fidel. Nixon promised he would, just as soon as he won the 1960 elections against some underdog, an unknown Democrat named John Kennedy. It would be an easy victory for Nixon. All the polls had Nixon winning by a landslide. Besides, Kennedy was a Catholic, and Americans would no more elect a Catholic President than they would elect a woman, a black or a Jew. This was 1959.

Nixon told Pepsi, Standard Oil and the other corporations who lost property, given back to the farmers of Cuba, that if they would help him win, he would authorize an invasion to remove Castro. To further impress contributors to his campaign, then-Vice President Nixon asked the CIA to create *Operation 40*, a secret plan to invade Cuba, just as soon as he won.

The CIA put Texas oil millionaire and CIA agent George Bush in charge of recruiting Cuban exiles into the CIA's invasion army. Bush was working with another Texas oil man, Jack Crichton, to help him with the invasion. A fellow Texan, Air Force General Charles Cabel, was asked to coordinate the air cover for the invasion.

Most of the CIA leadership around the invasion of Cuba seems to have been people from Texas. A whole Texan branch of the CIA is based in the oil business. If we trace Bush's background in the Texas oil business we discover his two partners in the oil-barge leasing business: Texan Robert Mosbacher and Texan James Baker. Mosbacher is now Sec. of Commerce and Baker is Sec. of State, the same job Dulles held when JFK was killed. (Source: *Common Cause* magazine, March/April 1990.)

On the Watergate tapes, June 23, 1972, referred to in the media as the "smoking gun" conversation, Nixon and his Chief of Staff, H. R. Haldeman, were discussing how to

The reason why Bush will "do anything" is because his hands have as much of Kennedy's blood on them as do Nixon's, Hunt's, Sturgis', Felix Rodriguez' and Gerald Ford's. This White House gang fears that if the public ever realizes how they shot their way into power it could set off a spark that would destroy their fragile fraud and land them in jail.

stop the FBI investigation into the Watergate burglary. They were worried that the investigation would expose their connection to "the Bay of Pigs thing." Haldeman, in his book *The Ends of Power*, reveals that Nixon always used code words when talking about the 1963 murder of JFK. Haldeman said Nixon would always refer to the assassination as "the Bay of Pigs."

On that transcript we find Nixon discussing the role of George Bush's partner, Robert Mosbacher, as one of the Texas fundraisers for Nixon. On the tapes Nixon keeps referring to the "Cubans" and the "Texans." The "Texans" were Bush, Mosbacher and baker. This is another direct link between Bush and evidence linking Nixon and Bush to the Kennedy assassination.

In the same discussion Nixon links "the Cubans," "the Texans," "Helms," "Hunt," "Bernard Barker," Robert "Mosbacher" and "the Bay of Pigs." Over and over on the Watergate tapes, these names come up around the discussion of the photos from Dallas, that Nixon was trying to obtain when he ordered the CIA to burglarize the Watergate. (Source: "Three Men and a Barge," Teresa Riordan, *Common Cause* magazine, March/April 1990, and *San Francisco Chronicle*, May 7, 1977, interview with Frank Sturgis in which he stated that "the reason we burglarized the Watergate was because Nixon was interested in stopping news leaking relating to the photos of our role in the assassination of President John Kennedy.")

After Nixon's landslide victory in 1972, he knew he had to centralize all power into the White House to keep his faction in power. Not only to hold power, but to prevent the media from digging into how he secretly shot his way into the White House, just like Hitler shot his way into control of Germany. The first thing Nixon did was to demand signed resignations of his entire government. "Eliminate everyone," he told John Ehrlichman about reappointment, "except George Bush. Bush will do anything for our cause." (Source: *Pledging Allegiance*, Sidney Blumenthal)

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Other famous Watergate members of the CIA invasion that Bush recruited were Frank Sturgis, E. Howard Hunt, Bernard Baker and Rafael Quintero. Quintero has said publicly that if he ever told what he knew about Dallas and the Bay of Pigs, "it would be the biggest scandal ever to rock the nation.

Meanwhile, in 1960, Preston Bush was running Nixon's campaign. Nixon was sent to South Vietnam to assure the French-connection government there that if France pulled out, the U.S. would step in to protect the drug trade from the Golden Triangle. (Source: *Frontline*, 1988, "Guns, Drugs and the CIA"; Alexander Cockburn, "Cocaine, the CIA and Air America," *S. F. Examiner*, Feb. 2, '91; *The Politics of Heroin in Southeast Asia*, Alfred McCoy, 1972)

In 1959 Vice President Nixon was flying all over the world, acting just like presidential material. It was an easy race for Nixon. Congressman Jerry Ford was doing a great job fundraising for Nixon, as was George Bush. The rich loved Nixon. The media picked up every bone Nixon tossed out to them. The biggest problem was that Nixon was afraid to speak openly of his plan to invade Cuba. The plan was a secret. No sense alerting Cuba to the coming invasion. But Kennedy was taking a harder line on

Cuba than Nixon, because Kennedy was not aware of the corporate/CIA planned invasion.

Nixon lost the 1960 race by the smallest margin in history. At first, Bush, Nixon, Cabel and Hunt decided to just go ahead with the invasion, without informing President Kennedy. Then, at the last second, at 4 a. m., just two hours before the invasion was set to go, General Cabel called JFK and asked permission to provide U.S. air cover for the CIA invasion. Kennedy said no.

The CIA was furious with JFK, but decided to go ahead with their private invasion anyway. Due to poor intelligence, the CIA landed at the worst possible beach, A swamp. The invasion failed. The CIA lost 115 of its best men, killed, with another 1100 in Cuban prisons. It was the worst single blow the CIA ever suffered. (Source: E. Howard Hunt, *Give Us This Day*)

Bush, Nixon and Hunt blamed Cabel for asking Kennedy, and blamed Kennedy for saying no. They were livid with anger. Nixon's corporate sponsors ordered JFK to make any deal necessary to recover the 1100 CIA agents imprisoned in Cuba. JFK did. Once the CIA had its well-trained Cubans back, they decided to continue the invasion of Cuba just as soon as they could get rid of that S. O. B. Kennedy.

The 1964 election was fast approaching. Nixon was running against Kennedy again. Bush, Ford and Nixon knew that they had to get rid of JFK now, or else the Kennedy clan, with Robert and Ted in the wings, could control the White House until 1984. They decided not to wait until '84 to get back the White House. The Cuban teams of "shooters" began following Kennedy from city to city looking for a window of opportunity to shoot from. They came close in Chicago, but couldn't get the cooperation of Mayor Daley.

But in Dallas they had an ace. The mayor was the brother of General Cabel, whom the CIA blamed for the failure of the invasion. The general prevailed on his brother, Earl, and the motorcade was changed to pass the grassy knoll at 3 m. p . h. Hunt and Sturgis shot JFK from the grassy knoll. They were arrested, photographed and seen by 15 witnesses. But the media turned a blind eye to the photos, and for 25 years the world has been searching for the truth.

On the day JFK was murdered, Nixon, Hunt and some of the Watergate crew were photographed in Dallas, as were a group of Cubans, one holding an umbrella up, like a signal, next to the President's limo just as Kennedy was shot. The Cubans can be seen holding up the signal umbrella in the Zapruder film and dozens of stills taken during the assassination. After the murder they can be seen calmly walking away.

Nixon denied he was in Dallas that day, but new photos and stories prove he was there. Nixon claimed to the FBI he couldn't remember where he was when JFK was killed. (Source: FBI memo, Feb. 23, 1964, published in *Coup D'Etat in America*, Weberman & Canfield) Bush, too, claims he can't remember where he was. Jack Anderson did a TV special in 1988 proving beyond any shadow of doubt that two of the tramps arrested in Dallas behind the grassy knoll were Hunt and Sturgis.

After the murder, former Vice President Nixon asked President Lyndon Johnson to appoint Nixon's friend, former FBI agent Jerry Ford, to run the Warren Commission. Nixon also asked LBJ to appoint Nixon's long-time supporter, Judge Earl Warren, to head the Commission. LBJ agreed. Ford interviewed all the witnesses and decided which ones would be heard and which ones eliminated.

It is no coincidence that Nixon selected Ford as his Vice President after Spiro Agnew was ousted. When Nixon himself got busted in the Watergate scandal, Earl Warren offered to set up another special commission if it would help get him out of trouble again. Ford, of course, pardoned Nixon for the Watergate burglary, but Nixon is still not out of the woods. There are 4000 hours of Watergate tapes. On the June 23, 1972 discussions with John Dean and Haldeman, there is clear evidence that Nixon is openly "confessing" to hiring Hunt to kill JFK. That is why the Watergate "investigation" went into secret session after Congress heard some of the tapes. That is why only 12 hours of the 4000 hours have been released to the public.

Did Congress realize that Nixon and Bush had openly discussed killing JFK for stopping the air cover of the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba? Remember, Nixon taped virtually every discussion he had with anyone in his inner circle, including Bush, in

order to blackmail people later. There is a photo of Bush reporting to Nixon in the White House in 1968. It will be interesting to see what they were talking about on that day, when the full 4000 hours are finally released. The key to unlocking the secrets behind the 1963 murder of JFK is hidden in the 3988 hours of unreleased White House tapes.

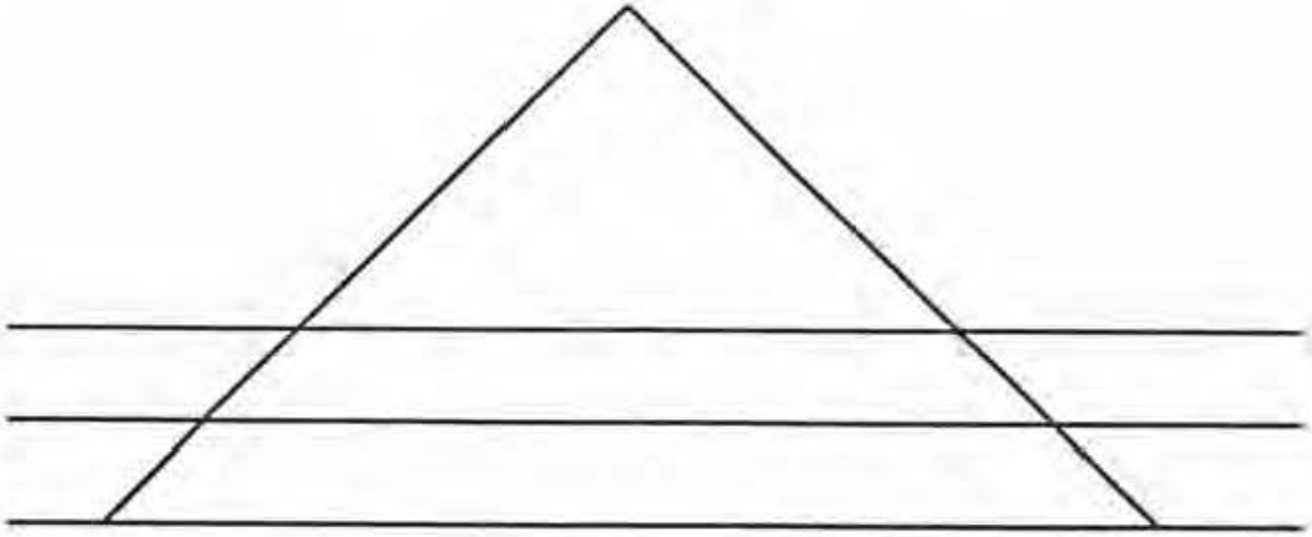
Bush was in Dallas the day Reagan was shot. (Source: *George Bush*, F. Green, 1988.) That must have given Bush a flashback to November 22, 1963.

**The preceding article was reprinted with permission from *The Realist*, Paul Krassner's newsletter of social and political satire. Subscriptions to *The Realist* can be had at $12 for 6 issues or $23 for twelve issues from Box 1230, Venice CA 90294.**

# OFF THE BEATEN PATH

*Off The Beaten Path* airs on KDHX FM 88.1 in St. Louis and features poetry readings, interviews, lectures and panel discussions regarding the Beat generation writers and the people and trends they influenced. For information about obtaining copies of the program, write to Steamshovel Press. Radio programmers take note!

*Program 1*: Performances by Neal Cassady, Allen Ginsberg, William Burroughs, and Jack Kerouac.
*Program 2*: Abbie Hoffman sound bites; Jack Hoffman interview.
*Program 3*: Lenny Bruce tribute; Paul Krassner interview.
*Program 4*: Rare Kerouac, from 1961 with Cassady.
*Program 5*: A Look at Wilhelm Reich; interview with Reichian James DeMeo.
*Program 6*: Censorship and the Beats
*Progran 7*: JFK Revisited A: Interview with Kerry Thornley.
*Program 8*: JFK Revisited B: Interview with Jim Marrs.



# BLACK HOLES AND THE TRILATERAL COMMISSION

*by Roy Lisker*

There exist documents in the Pentagon with such tight security surrounding them, that they can only be retreived by persons who possess an unbreakable cryptographic key, a so-called Shannon matrix code. In these one discovers that the Trilateral Commission has installed a hidden sperm bank in a vault below the buildings of the Rand Corporation in Santa Monica, California. The raw materials from this bank are used for reserach in genetic engineering, almost all of which in the United States is also funded by the Trilateral Commission. This important fact is known to only a few people. The purpose of this research is to produce human clones sensitive to magnetic fields from distant stars.

The Graham-Shockley sperm bank for Nobel laureates has been exposed as a Maoist Communist front. The Rand Corporation's bank is the real thing; its sperms come from the fathers of Nobel laureates, who are far more likely candidates for having something special in their seed. All of the fathers of Nobel laureates, still alive and in the United States, were rounded up on June 14, 1980, by the national guard acting under direct orders from David Rockefeller, then forced at gunpoint to ejaculate into small plastic bottles. This would never have become public knowledge if I had not encountered a Nobel father last Sunday in the john of a sleazy hotel at 58th Street and 8th Avenue in New York. He was trying to puncture his throat with the opened end of a coat hanger left lying in a clogged drain by the hotel maintenance man.

David Rockefeller is not a person. He is a robotoid. The substitution was made 10 years ago by creatures of atheistic and communistic practises living in the black

holes of the Galaxy Cygnus X-I. Privately, one refers to them as "greigles"; they can take any shape at will. Via the Trilateral Commission, the greigles exchange human sperm like money. When all the earth's energy resources run out, each greigle-baron will be able to generate its own corral of cloned slaves.

I first discovered that David Rockefeller is a robotoid (and that Karl Marx was probably a robotoid) when after 8 months of arduous computations I broke the complex code transmitted in the high-frequency overtones of all music performed by the Da Capo Chamber Players, all of whom are witting or unwitting agents of sinister cosmic meta-forces. It may be that some of the composers whose works they regularly perform are also subject to the powerful hypnotic commands of the greigles—Elliott Carter, Mario Davidovsky, or Miriam Gideon for example. However, these messages are not transmitted in the actual notes, but in the manner in which the Da Capo Players play them. I am one of the few beings on earth able to hear these peculiar frequencies; my bulldog is another one.

Later on I discovered that similar messages were also being sent by a much larger group of musicians performing complicated contemporary music. Coded signals passed between the Trilateral Commission and the Ayatollah refer to them collectively as "the music circle." (Full details were given to me by a confidential source near 80th Street and Amsterdam Avenue last Monday night.)

After listening to recent concerts of the Da Capo Chamber Players, I am now certain of the following:

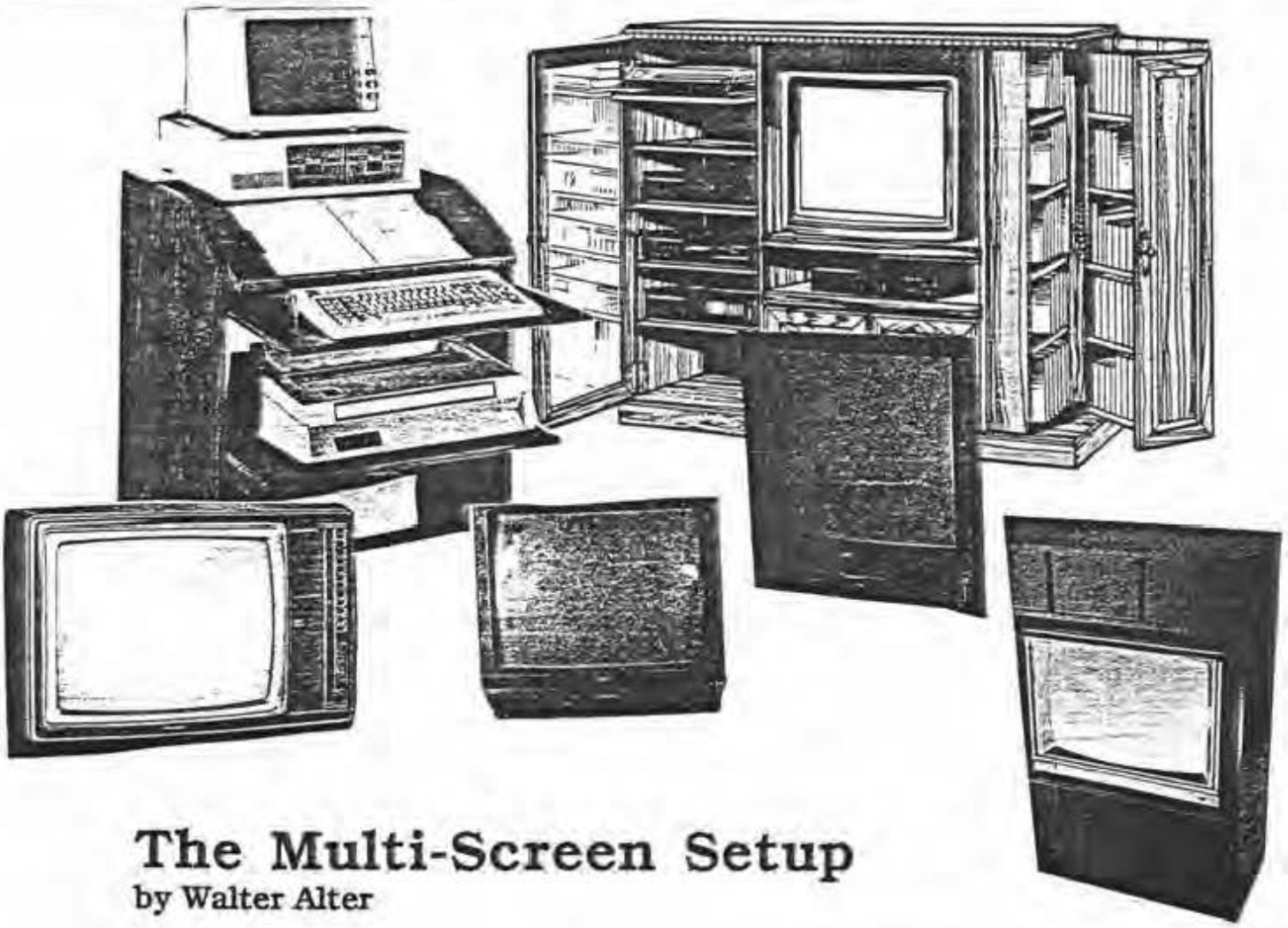
*- That the Ayatollah Khomeini, himself a greigle, was responsible for the disaster at Three Mile Island.*
*- That all the cancer in the world is caused by a team of virologists working at the Vatican under the direction of the Pope.*
*- That the Reverend Sun Myung moon has a warehouse of nuclear warheads underneath his seminary in Barrytown, NY.*
*- That brain cells can be cloned from LSD, in the presence of blood.*
*- That our world is really two-dimensional, its third dimension created by mass hypnotic illusion. Much of what goes wrong with our lives is due to this misfortune - Immanuel Kant, who may also have been sensitive to high frequencies, tries to tell us as much in his Critique of Pure Reason.*
*- That nuclear power is actually a sinister plot against homosexuals, directed by the Freemasons with Pentagon support.*
*- That the Day of Judgement has already arrived in Cygnus X-I.*
*- That prolixin is highly radioactive & should not be used as a psychiatric drug.*
*- That the Americans, the Russians and the Japanese are presently building a huge concentration camp in the Antarctic where they intend to incarcerate all peoples of the Third World living below a predetermined standard of living.*

The greigles ultimately intend to suck the Earth out of its orbit and drag it to the Event Horizon of a black hole in Cygnus X-I, where all life can be permanently frozen into fixed modes of behavior. They are also responsible for the permanent energy crisis. This fact has already been understood by our best scientists. Stephen Hawking, the astrophysicist, through his "Cosmological Censorship Hypothesis," can explain how energy can fail to be conserved inside black holes without violating the laws of physics. We can now see why the greigles found it advantageous to replace the Ayatollah with one of themselves. By placing an energy-violating black hole creature at the head of an important oil-producing nation, Cygnus X-I maintains a controlling interest in world political economy.

Other greigles include Pinochet, Moshe Dayan, Nixon, Joan Baez and the Basques. Robotoids include the Rockefellers, Kissinger, Giscard d'Estaing, the mayors of Hazelton, Pennsylvania, Gary, Indiana, Monroe, Michigan, Fall River, Massachusetts, to name a few. If Barry Commoner is a robotoid, then David McReynolds (Citizens Party and Socialist Party presidential candidates, respectively) is a greigle; the opposite may also be true.

All white males will be sterile within three years, there being a slightly longer time limit for other races.

**Roy Lisker is a mathematician, poet and musician. His newsletter, *Ferment!*, is available from Boughton Place , 152 Kisor Road, Highland, NY 12528.**



# The Multi-Screen Setup

**by Walter Alter**

Why is the multi-screen setup the intrinsic shape of the medium? Why will the number of screens you can read simultaneously become the pre-eminent measure of human intelligence?

Big screen projection and screen insets (pull downs) are an evolutionary dead end for video no matter what the resolution or price tag. A multi-screen modular add on array will become the universal application of imaging technology as a conceptual spinoff of high velocity, high necessity TV gauge instrumentation as in airplane cockpit flight decks. You can multiply your IQ (heretofore based on print literacy) by a factor of ten simply by placing two thrift store black and white TV sets side by side, tuned to two different channels, volume up on both, and concentrating on following the information flux simultaneously. Within ten minutes of moderate concentration you will have eclipsed 500 years of obsolete sequential print patterning. Multi-screen image literacy will position your perceptions within a flux of simultaneous info, i.e., a more accurate model of the real 3-D world of simultaneous events.

Why multi-screen array with six, eight or ten screens rather than a single screen with insets or message overlays? First of all, the same screen size creates equal domains where important info can pop up anywhere. With the peripheral visual field sharing a conscious role, the hierarchical dominance of the central visual field is lessened allowing for an awareness of field interplay rather than point objects. Point scanning is the dominant uptake mode of print literacy. The TV's electron scan already does this for us at a far greater velocity than our eyes. Instead of mimicking a pencil thin visual uptake tunnel as in reading, we can begin to apperceive in blanket areas and allow the eye to "read" the situation as the situation dictates instead of being trapped in a line by line left to right top to bottom schema. The obvious result is an increase in

interpretative flexibility, tending to downplay expectations based on "subject-predicate" linearity and thus allowing for true discovery rather than extrapolation. A second result is a cognitive breakout from the specialists tunnel vision. No longer are phenomena, particularly social phenomena, allowed to exist divorced from relationship, as existential isolates. A third result is the repatterning of thought from words into pictures. If a picture is worth a thousand words, thinking in pictures is a three orders of magnitude increase in efficiency.

The eyes, jumping from screen to screen, look for important data at a rapid rate. This makes the domain boundaries (screen borders) become more and more permeable and is diametrically opposed to the single screen (theater/cinema) limitation of having the viewer captive to a single bounded area (and thus be a single bounded area!). Societies are not single bounded areas, and any singular oriented media of communication which attempts to overlay itself upon plural fields is an unfaithful model of the real 3-D world and does not prepare us to act effectively in the 3-D world.

Breakthroughs in human invention are characterized by the translation of concepts across boundaries, usually by the synthesis of several extant processes into a new process. To perform such an inventive synthesis requires a breakdown of conceptual boundaries and a reintegration of the contents. The nice thing about using boundary crashing activity within a defined array of monitors is that the array itself is less able to be conceived of as an isolated single domain, ie., a single tool for a single problem, and the processes occurring within it are encouraged to breakout and be applied synthetically to the real 3-D world. The "activity", then, becomes the organizing frame of reference. Moreover, that activity consists of more than shifting attention from screen to scree. It also consists of zooming in and out on a single screen to pick up detail. The zoom in/out action of attention focus is as important as domain jumping in the breakdown of conceptual boundaries, possibly even more so since it essentially turns any visual field boundary into an elastic one. Conceptual synthesis and conceptual elasticity work hand in hand.

When both operate in concert, a powerful amplification of information throughput and analysis can come into play for the first time in human affairs. A great deal of human misery is caused by the inability to reintegrate new information with old information in a way that reflects adequate problem solving within a new situation. The simple tyranny of word categories wherein a single entity word is used to describe impossibly complex ideas as in the case of the word "life" attempting to convey anything close to the concept; does more to keep humanity from discovering its potential than any other single impediment. A single picture can provide far more info on the subject, a motion picture even more, and an array of video screens with realtime programming can begin to approach the kind of modeling we need in order to act in a problem solving manner. This schematic also holds for inner visual imagination processes as well, although our ability to inner visualize with full memory and in color, stereo with synthetic freedom is almost totally inhibited by our endocrinal dampening system which has been genetically developed for far more hostile circumstances and overexcercised by physical and emotional trauma. Insofar as vision is the one human perception capable of the most information flux density, then inner imaging exercises a corresponding proportional ideational mix on the inside. Over half the brain's neurons are used to process and understand visual input. Its visual input data channel has a bandwidth estimated to be about two gigabits (billion bits) per second. Total memory recall is probably more than half visual and obviously the key factor of photographic memory in human genius. Any effort we make to undamper human visual perception, both inner and outer, will pay off by increasing human intelligence.

To recap: the concept of unitariness (as opposed to a flux of necessity-based emphases, ie., an emphasis field) is the single most intelligence inhibiting factor in human affairs. Unitariness has the irritating capability to make "A" visual field and turn it into "the" visual field, a dangerous game when the game board of perception consists of an infinity of internal and external visual fields belonging to each of our fellow cohabitants of dimension number three. Singularity is thus, paradoxically, chaotic because it inhibits meaning formation. Again, this can be best illustrated in

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the verbal domain where unitary word symbol packages come to stand for pictures. This is obviously quicksand when you add the difficulty of synonyms and inflection. It is easy to see how a unitary word symbol can mean a range of things not intended. Imagine if humans spoke a single word, waited for a single word reply, spoke a single word again, etc. The essence of the problem is apparent. With sentences the problem of accuracy remains although the setup is workable in a one on one situation, even a one on several situation but begins to break down in a one on many situation and absolutely does not operate in reverse, not to mention a many to many situation. Verbal communication is sequential and slow, 700 mph. Visual communication is simultaneous and fast, 186,000 mps. The creation of a new visual language capable of communicating within an electrical social matrix is the one key invention that will unlock the future in a more unlimited sense than ever imagined. A high definition mathematical hieroglyphics able to model a complex unfolding of realtime subject matter will propel our imaginations at ultra warp speed, yet at ultra applicability topologies.

The application of boundary crunching concepts to organize data dynamically into temporary clumps of greater specific utility is an impulse towards efficiency. Of course a dimension with no time would be the most efficient of all, everything simultaneous. Our dimension contains/is contained by time, but since all dimensions connect, overlay and superimpose to varying degrees, our closest perceptual approximation of trans-dimensionality is the visual field in which a picture consisting of many elements is perceived at once. Continuity, any continuity, whether conceptual or visual, is easily seen as being sort of timelessness. So if we overlay visual meaning upon data fields, and make the process dynamic by relating them into greater efficiencies, we are participating more and more in timeless dimension, and if that ain't cosmic, kids, I don't know what is.

So find two TVs and clump them together into a field and engage the clump with your significance amplifier engines. It doesn't matter what the programs are since the meaning of the exercise is not "what's on" the screen, but what's on in the head, ie., what cognitive tools are fashioned irrespective of program content. The overriding consideration is the formal arrangement of 2+ screens and the cognitive rearranging it instigates to cause simultaneous mini-continuities to occur within the maxi-continuity of consciousness. My bet is that anyone seriously experimenting with this setup will necessarily find themselves eventually filling the screens with whatever program material best serves the primary function of gauge. This is because the multi-screen setup not only encourages domain jumping but also makes it very easy to exercise comparative judgement in field free of constants. The yardsticks are relative, no inches, pounds or BTUs. Constants are replaced with threshold awareness which would indicate subsequent efficient actions. This is to say that problem solving actions would be more likely to solve the problem than be an exercise in role playing or intellectual whacking off. The only universal constant s are those which are the intersection of all dimensions. Life is such an intersection. Potential is such an intersection. Its hard to use real constants for a yardstick since they are so big, like having an inch be one ten flamillionth of the universe. So we use inches that are the average length of a thumb to the first knuckle because we can build apparatuses that with that constant which allow

us to approach the next threshold of instrumentation, etc., etc., until we find ourselves living a very long time and knowing a very great deal. There is a workable point of view (projection) in which the pi relation between the radius and the circumference of a circle is a whole number.

**Walter Alter publishes *Little Wally's Anathema, A Repair Manual for the 21st Century.* He can be reached at Renaissance 2000, Studio 26, 40001 San Leandro Street, Oakland, CA 94601.**


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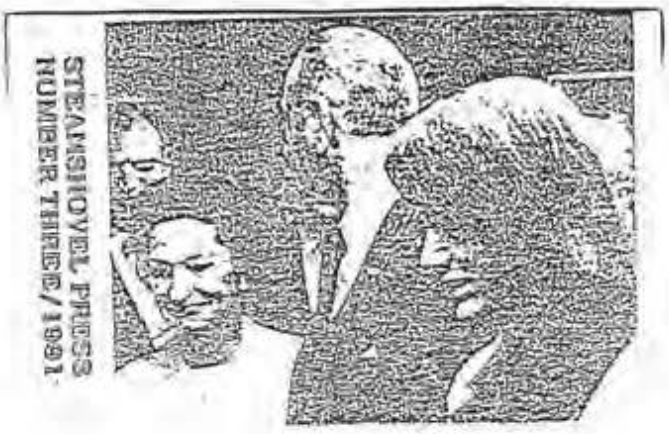


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# The Kabbalah Papers

***Found in a folder in a box in the attic of the residence occupied by the late Professor Luther X. Frankenfurter***

**on Smythe College at San Patattoh letterhead**

January 17, 1978

Mrs. Gwedelphia Buffo
1 Crustant Woods
Fontendue, Tuscany
Italy 897 6G4 Y

Dear Mrs. Buffo:

Thank you for your generous donation from the papers of the late Sir Huckleberry-Bixby. Your attention to and generosity for Smythe College at San Patattoh continues unabated. Speaking for the College *in toto*, I cannot express sufficient gratitude for this most valuable gift and the others preceding it.

The Huckleberry-Bixby manuscript attracted immediate interest upon its arrival. Distinguished faculty members in our Center for the Propagation of Culture have received it so enthusiastically that outstanding scholars in our mathematics, philosophy, and literature departments are complaining the CPC boys are hogging the action! The Library has even received queries from our scientists in the Department of Materials. The name of Mrs. Buffo is on almost every pair of lips in the halls of Smythe-Patattoh—as it is upon my own.

We all look forward to your visit next month for the dedication of the Elmer F. Creamerée Building, for which you have been its greatest patron. Until then, Smythe College at San Patattoh continues to bask in the munificent sunshine of your intelligence.

Sincerely yours,

Luther X. Frankenfurter, Ph.D.
Director of Librarues (sic)



**continued...**

**handwritten on 5" x 7" 28-pound canary yellow cardstock**

January 2, 1978

*My Dearest Temitia,*

*I'm sure Smythe-P will care for and study these papers from the late Sir Hubert Y. J. Huckleberry-Bixby. I know Hubie would be very happy to know that some of his work was being carried forward at the P.*

*Looking forward to seeing you next month, President Crackenworster. Tell Luther I'm also looking forward to his own naughty little monkey.*

*Fondly,*
*Gwed*

**handwritten on yellow, lined 10" x 14" paper**

The attached book review—though report may be the more correct term—comprises the only evidence I have, besides that of my own senses, of the existence of Vistavius, a small Pacific island of some 1000 square miles with a plentiful fresh water supply, an abundance of shade, a seemingly inexhaustible variety and supply of wild fruits and vegetables, and a small colony (987 souls) of multi-lingual and exceedingly sophisticated chimpanzees.

My personal story of more than 170 days spent on Vistavius has been widely reported in the popular periodicals and electronic information services, and will apeear in book form in my forthcoming work from Steamshovel Press. It thus becomes unnecessary for me to say little more than that I arrived on Vistavius on 3 July 1975 with two books in my possession: **Gravity's Rainbow** by Thomas Pynchon, and **Sabbatai Sevi: The Mystical Messiah, 1626-1676** by Gershom Scholem. By the morning of 5 July, Ugasu, the leader—if that is at all the word to choose—of the chimpanzees—with whom I communicated freely since they were all literate in English (the result, I later learned, of the shipwreck during the late 1860's of a group of American nuns on a South Sea vacation)—Ugasu had finished reading **Gravity's Rainbow** and begged me to leave "this remarkable book," as she phrased it, in the chimpanzees' library. By the end of the month, the apes had all listened to the complete text of **Gravity's Rainbow** because of a series of readings organized by Ugasu. Now the library had a waiting list hundreds of names long of patrons wanting to borrow **Gravity's Rainbow**.

Soon thereafter, Ugasu read **Sabbatai Sevi** and wrote the attached review for her community, in the language of the book being reviewed as has been the custom among the chimpanzees for apparently thousand of years.

**on standard duplication paper**

Gershom Scholem, *Sabbatai Sevi, The Mystical Messiah, 1626-1676*. Princeton: Princeton UP, 1973.

Apocalyptic Jewish thought sees the process or redemption not as a result of historical forces but rather that which "arises on the ruins of history, which collapses amid the 'birth pangs' of the messianic age" (9). Such an outlook, combined with a history of exile and oppression, has provided Jewish history with several messianic claimants. The Sabbatian movement was different from any previous and subsequent messianic movement because it occupied the attention of Jews all over the world. Sabbatai Sevi had a strong following in countries that persecuted their Jews and in countries that were less repressive; in communities that were economically prosperous and those that were not.

The Sabbatian movement is also interesting because it is a sect of *kabbalah*, the mystical method of interpreting Scripture to penetrate sacred mysteries and foretell the future. According to those who practice *kabbalah*, the physical world is only a symbol or "intimation" of an inner reality that controls the external world we perceive. The purpose of the kabbalist's activity and meditation is to come into contact with that inner reality, or *En-sof*.

Popular notions concerning *kabbalah*, things like magic and numerology, are not what this religion is all about. These misconceptions influence the ideas that many of Pynchon's characters have about *kabbalah*, though Pynchon himself demonstrates a good grasp of kabbalistic concepts. The precepts of *kabbalah* can be explained with the definition of various key terms:

*En-sof* (the Infinite)—"The hidden God . . . far removed from everything created; he is unrevealed, non-manifest, and unknown." (115).

*sefiroth*—An emanation from the *En-sof*; there are ten individual *sefirah*. "The first three *sefiroth* . . . do not manifest themselves by direct activity in the world below. But the lower seven . . . are the forces that build the manifest and visible universe . . ." (120).

*qelippoth*—The left side, the impure side, the female side of the cosmos; evil. ". . . the soft meaty slug of a soul that smiles and loves, that feels its mortality, either rotted away or been picked at . . . a process by which living souls unwillingly become the demons . . ." (*Gravity's Rainbow* 176)

*tiqqun*—The effort to reunite the male and female sides of the cosmos.

*Shekhinah*—The Talmud defines this as the presence of God. To the kabbalists the term serves as a technical term for the tenth and last *sefirah*.

*maggidim*—Angels or holy souls who would supposedly visit kabbalists and convey heavenly wisdom.

*Mystery of the Jubilee*—". . . kabbalistic view that at the time of redemption the supernal lights of the hidden *sefiroth* and configurations would become manifest on earth" (275).

*gematria*—Numerology; the invention of mystical allusions by way of the numerical value in words. (Sabbatai Sevi delighted in their use, especially references to himself as messiah. He played with it like a writer might play with puns.)

Sabbatai Sevi was born in Smyrna, August, 1626, on the Ninth of Ab (Hebrew calendar)—the day commemorating the destruction of the First and Second Temples. Since he was born on the Sabbath he was named "Sabbatai," this being the practice of the time. Sevi received a thorough religious and Talmudic training. He became an ascetic as a young man and this turned him to the works of *kabbalah*.

While most of his contemporaries were becoming involved in Lurianic *kabbalah*, Sabbatai read no Lurianic literature, only the Zohar, the great mystical work of *kabbalah*, and the two volumes of the *Qanah*, a voluminous work on the meaning of the commandments. Sevi's special outlook was also influenced by his particular mental health. He suffered from a "manic-depressive psychosis" (126) that

left his faculties intact but could plunge him into despair or exaltation on an irregular basis. There were also "normal" periods.

When Sabbatai was in a state of illumination, the excitement phases, he would perform strange or paradoxical acts, and outright blasphemy, such as uttering the Ineffable Name of God. Doing this kind of thing once too often, led to Sevi's being expelled from Smyrna in 1651. This was before he had made any public claims to being the messiah. This breaking of taboos became an important part of Sabbatai's personal philosophy. He argued that the arrival of the messianic age meant a new law, and the new law was symbolized by doing that which was forbidden. One such act which thoroughly shocked the Jewish establishment was Sabbatai's consumption of strictly forbidden animal fat, punishable by "excision"— "that soul shall be cut off from among his people. Of the thirty-six transgressions listed in the Talmud as incurring this punishment, the majority are sexual offenses . . ." (242). Thus, the symbolic meaning of Sevi's acts were even more important, and it was this behavior that got him in trouble, not claiming to be the messiah.

Sabbatai Sevi would never have made it alone, however. "Devoid of will power and without a program of action, he was a victim of his illness and his illusions" (208). The man was able to carry out the role of messiah only because of his prophet, Nathan of Gaza, renowned as a man of God.

In late 1664, or early 1665, Nathan had been imposing particularly heavy penance and fasting upon his congregation. He was beginning to develop prophecy about the coming messianic age. When Sabbatai on a journey to Jerusalem stopped to visit Nathan, the prophet told him he was the messiah. Not in a state of illumination, Sevi declined. Later, when Sabbatai was no longer depressed, he visited Nathan again. The two became close friends. In May, 1665, Sabbatai Sevi revealed himself as the messiah.

Nathan explained how the messianic struggle would occur: "His real war will be against the demonic powers of the *qelippah*, and it will be waged essentially on the 'inner,' spiritual levels of the cosmos, although it might eventually manifest itself on the material level as well" (227).

Nathan was indispensable to the movement. His presence outweighed any rabbinic threat of excommunication. Nathan helped explain the strange behavior of the messiah and the repellent aspects of his personality. He helped shape a movement that was characterized by a combination of severe penitence and great rejoicing.

Sabbatian theology differed from Lurianic kabbalism because of the central role played by the messiah. The underlying assumption is that during the messianic age, life will return to uncorrupted spirituality. Sabbatai and his followers were working to hasten the coming of such a world. Nathan explains that the defeat of the demonic powers of the *qelippoth* is also related to any tyranny on earth. The destruction of the gentile rule was also necessary.

The purpose of prayer for the Sabbatian was "to lift the *Shekhinah* from her low position . . . to her rightful and exalted place . . . rise not only to the level of *Tif'ereth* (the 'husband of the *Shekhinah*') but even to the highest *sefirah* . . . raised to a realm where she would be the crown of her husband" (278). Thus, when Pynchon has Greta impersonate a homicidal *Shekhinah* (*Gravity's Rainbow* 478) he is drawing on an important image and giving it ironic meaning by having Greta murder. For being faithful to their *Shekhinah*, Jews have always been persecuted.

Once Sabbatai revealed himself as the messiah, he gained control of the Jewish community in Smyrna. A reign of terror from the believers kept the opposition quiet. The city was under Turkish dominion and all of this messianism was allowed to continue because of bribes. The Cadi also took money from the unbelievers. Less than three weeks passed, however, before Sabbatai left for Constantinople, the capital of the Ottoman Empire. This was either late December 1665 or early January, 1656.

On route to Constantinople, Sabbatai was arrested. Scholem states that there is good evidence to believe that Jewish opponents had a hand in this. On February 8, 1666, Sabbatai was brought to Constantinople in chains. The Turks were not upset by the boldness of the Jewish messianic thought, but rather "the disruption of normal life and the cessation of business activities in the Jewish community which controlled so much of Turkey's commerce" (449). Pragmatic economics seem to have dictated much of the

behavior of the Turkish authorities throughout the history of the Sabbatian movement. It is analogous to the apparent motivation of "Them" in *Gravity's Rainbow*.

Sabbatai appeared before the Sultan's Divan, presided over by the Grand Vizier, and through "intelligent and sensible deportment" (430) he was not executed but sent to jail. This was considered quite a miracle by most of his fellow Jews. Analogies were drawn with the suffering of captivity in the hands of the demons of the *qelippoth*. "It was only natural that [the messiah's] fate express itself . . . in external, material reality" (453). Bribes from his followers to the authorities allowed him a comfortable life and visitors.

When the Grand Visier had to leave to conquer Crete, he ordered Sabbatai to the fortress of Gallipoli, on the European side of the straits of the Dardanelles. Sevi arrived on April 19, 1666. At Gallipoli, Sabbatai was also allowed visitors thanks to the Turkish custom that allowed people to come in by paying an appropriate "entrance fee" (603). Regular pilgrimages to the new messiah began.

One of the guests who came to see Sabbatai at Gallipoli was a mysterious R. Nehemiah Kohen, from Poland. He arrived in Gallipoli September 3 or 4, and remained for only two or three days, speaking to Sabbatai. There are two versions of what took placed The Jewish account states that Nehemiah told Sabbatai that messianic prophecies had to be fulfilled in a literal manner, or else it was not an act of the messiah. This idea, of course, implied that Sabbatai was <u>not</u> the messiah. The Christian version says that Nehemiah argued that he was the martyr messiah of the house of Joseph, and that Sabbatai had no right to be the Davidic messiah when he had yet to begin his ministry, which, according to prophecy, had to come first. Sabbatai had argued that one of his early disciples, killed in the Polish massacres of 1648, had been the messiah from the House of Joseph.

After the argument with Sabbatai, Nehemiah apostatized,that is, became a Moslem, and denounced Sevi for "fomenting sedition" (666). From then on, Nehemiah wandered about, changing his name to hide his identity, avoiding places where he might be recognized.

On September 12, or 13, 1666, four messengers arrived to take Sabbatai back to the capital. He was brought before the Sultan's Privy Council on September 16. The Jewish community expected Sabbatai to take the Sultan's crown and place it on his own head. This did not happen. Instead, the Turks gave Sevi a choice: "to be tortured to death, or to apostatize" (677). Sabbatai opted for the latter, taking the name Asiz Mehemed Effendi, after the sultan. He was appointed to the honorary office of *kapici bashi* (keeper of the palace gates) and given a royal pension of a little less than two lion's dollars (ecús) per day.

Sabbatai went to live in Adrianople and from his home remained in touch with his chief adherents. The mass of the people who were his followers still believed in him. Nathan explained the apostasy as a "logical, albeit unexpected, sequel to earlier 'strange actions' which had played such a central role in the elaboration of his doctrine and ministry of the messiah" (709). Sevi was able to maintain contact with Jews after the apostasy because the Turks believed he was trying to gain converts for Islam. In fact, several of his followers did apostatize in his wake.

Since December of 1666 the rabbis of Constantinople had been threatening excommunication to all Sabbatian believers. Nathan of Gaza was persecuted extensively until 1668, when it stopped mysteriously, although he continued to be a powerful influence in the movement.

The earlier prophecies concerning when the messianic age would begin now had to be revised. Nathan had to make revisions in his original theological arguments. Nathan's "earliest letters had stated quite clearly that the unbeliever could neither disturb nor delay the inexorable progress of the messianic consummation . . . Now, under the pressure of events, Nathan had to revise his earlier opinions and ponder where he had misinterpreted his original vision" (775). The view developed by the Sabbatian circle in Adrianople was that there was a "holy seed," which the gentiles were part of, and to garner it the messiah had to convert the gentiles to Sabbatian Judaism. This was the secret meaning of the apostasy.

On September 12, 1672, Sabbatai and some of his followers were arrested for conducting Jewish prayers. Evidence suggests that the head of the palace guard was bribed to have Sevi arrested. Witnesses were produced against Sabbatai who swore that he uttered blasphemies on other occasions. The punishment for being found guilty of reviling or denying Islam was death. Sabbatai got off with banishment because of his friendship with the Sultan. Sevi was sent to the fortress of Dulcigno.

Sabbatai Sevi died in Dulcigno on the Day of Atonement, (the most holy day in the Jewish year), 5437 (September 17, 1676). The general reaction of the believers was not to talk about it but only to wait and see if it was a "real death," or an occultation, merely an illusion. The prophet Nathan died four years later.

*—Ugasu*


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# A Gemstone Darkly

**by Jim Keith**

At a certain point, while researching my book on the Gemstone File, I changed my mind about it. Initially I had been very skeptical, but in something short of minor satori I became less skeptical and realized that virtually everything of importance that Bruce Roberts had said lo these 18-and-more years ago could be true. That is, the Mafia really could have been the ones behind the JFK, RFK and MLK hits, and Aristotle Onassis, while there's not a hint of it in the standard biographies of the guy, could have been the "Mr. Big" ordering the hits.

That's the thesis of Gemstone, in a nutshell, but it's embroidered with any number of other different strange and unsavory events with the 24 pages of this samizdat classic, this Secret Letters of Chicken Little--dark mini-history of the twentieth century that has circulated hand-to-hand since 1974 or so.

Why hadn't I believed Gemstone to begin with? To be blunt, the thing reeks of paranoia and the spy biz of a man with no apparent connections to the intelligence (or less than intelligent) agencies.

Bruce Roberts, before his death (all deaths are mysterious in the world of conspiracy research, and Bruce Roberts' death was at least as mysterious as the rest of the guys on the San Francisco obituary page the same day) wrote something on the order of 1000 pages of letters, purporting to expose the inner workings of the Mafia and the US government, and sent those letters to his mother and sundry other figures like Marshall Tito and Anwar Sadat. The letters existed and some exist; we have the word of Mae Brussell, Stephanie Caruana, and Paul Krassner on that. For my own part, I have yet to see a single page of the original Roberts' letters.

All I have to go on is what the rest of us (aside from the above mentioned) have seen, namely "The Skeleton Key to the Gemstone File," and a continuing bramble-laden correspondence with Stephanie Caruana, the woman who edited the Gemstone letters down from 1000 pages to a 24 page synopsis.

Caruana is a study in herself. I'd spent some time trying to locate her while working on the book, and had had no luck. And then, by accident, if there are such things, and this instance certainly strained credulity, I ran across her name and address. Caruana is very concerned that her address doesn't leak out (she's survived 18 years since she did the Skeleton Key, but since some of the principals of the Gemstone Files live, she'd just as soon remain anonymous) so I won't give you any clues on this one; suffice it to say that she's been doing other things since the Skeleton Key.

Caruana believes utterly in the truth of the Gemstone File and believes Roberts to have been the bravest man she ever met. She thinks that I'm a dilettante who only indulges in "conspiracy theory" because I'm certain that it couldn't be true--but she has taken the time to answer any question I've had about the File. She also has 8 pages of Roberts' original letters and an expanded 60 page Skeleton Key (with photos) that no one that I know has ever seen. When my book comes out from Illuminet, those things may or may not be in it; probably not, she wants $4500 for photocopies of those items.

In putting the book together, I began researching the individual events depicted in the Skeleton Key, and at a certain point things seemed to at least partially crystallize. The Skeleton Key, for instance, maintains that Howard Hughes was kidnapped by the Mafia and replaced by a lookalike. It urns out that everyone and his brother has speculated on the same thing at one time or another; Charles Colson, the IRS, Carl Oglesby, lots of people. It's at least as plausible as the other theories about what happened to Hughes.

Onassis was more difficult. I read half-a-dozen bios of the Greek tycoon looking for something, anything that would suggest that he was anything more than wily, and found nothing. But then connections finally started to fall in place and I found out that Onassis, f importance that Bruce Roberts had said lo these 18-and-more years ago could be true. That is, while I can't prove any wrongdoing on his part, hung out with Nazis, Mafia, and men who were identifiable links to the JFK assassination. You might even say that I felt I glimpsed a tentacle of the Danny Casalore "Octopus." These associates don't absolutely prove that Onassis was up

**...the Mafia really could have been the ones behind the JFK, RFK and MLK hits, and Aristotle Onassis, while there's not a hint of it in the standard biographies of the guy, could have been the "Mr. Big" ordering the hits.**

to dirty work that he's portrayed as doing in the Gemstone File, but it did make the whole conception...quite plausible.

And then W. Scott Walker called me from Tahoe and tried to threaten me off from the book. He's the publisher of a book (and I use the term loosely, since I've had a chance to peruse the thing) by Peter Renzo, called **Beyond The Gemstone Files.** It's basically a crappy rip-off of the Caruana Skeleton Key that Renzo claims are the files that G. Gordon Liddy "thought he had burned." Walker maintains that Renzo is ex-CIA and an ex-member of the "Fighting Tigers Assassination Squad." He also implied that if I went ahead with my plans for doing a book on the Gemstone File that the Fighting Tigers just might have a reunion and use me for target practice.

I think the guy is loony, but who knows? That didn't keep Liddy out of the Company. Greg Krupey tells me that he's run into a reference to a "Fighting Tigers," supposedly the hit squad who took out Kennedy witnesses after the assassination. Whatever; I've spent the advance and I have to do the book.

The problem, as I see it, was that Bruce Roberts was paranoid, which tended to cause him to interconnect and view everything as part of the Web. Although I've not seen his original letters, I've heard them described, and they sound...well, Caruana compares them to Joyce's **Finnegan's Wake.** That's only a shade of difference from calling them crazy. Brilliant, but crazy, let's say. In addition to the letters being rambling and manic, they were synopsized for posterity by Stephanie Caruana, and she turned out a Gemstone that is flawed--unsubstantiated at best.

The odd thing, though, is that I have the suspicion that Gemstone could be true. Roberts may have walked a thin line as he followed the thread of Mafia influence in international politics, but at the same time it is possible that he knew what was going on in the big conspiratorial picture.

That's where I stand. I'm dickering with Caruana for some Roberts letters, and I'm putting the final touches on the book. And I ain't (if you're familiar with the Skeleton Key) eating any apple pie.

**Jim Keith's *Dharma Combat*, a magazine about "spirituality, metaphysics, reality and other conspiracies," costs $3 a copy from POB 20593, Sun Valley, NV 89433. His book on the Gemstone File will soon be available from Illuminet Press, POB 746, Avondale, GA 30002.**

# AIDS:

## ACT OF GOD OR THE PENTAGON?

**by G.J. Krupey**

As a controversial issue, AIDS has not disappeared, although the initial hysteria, induced by the sensation mongering of an ignorant media and exacerbated by the hate-mongering of the religious right, seems to have been somewhat muted as the feared "gay plague" failed to materialize as a "Black Death" style pandemic sweeping away all life in its path worldwide.

But the hysteria is still there, bubbling under the surface along with the threat of potential reactionary panic that that hysteria carries along with it. The recent demands from some quarters, in the aftermath of "innocent" patients contaminated by AIDS-stricken doctors, dentists, and nurses, that health care workers submit to mandatory AIDS testing, and even that doctors who continue to work in their fields after knowingly contracting the disease be liable for imprisonment is just one more proof of that.

Confusion still reigns in the public forum on the AIDS question, and prejudice and bigotry still dominate the discourse, signs that little has changed since the emergence in the early eighties of the "gay plague". AIDS is a controversial and many faceted subject that taxes the patience and often the credulity of even the most "objective", non-partisan investigator of the subject. It is a mystery that seems to become only more mysterious the more one studies it; where one Hydra head is chopped off, two more reappear. Certainly the most important question to those already suffering from AIDS is how to cure it, how to prevent it. At this point, the question as to what causes AIDS is secondary, and there is a host of contradictory theories as to what the source or sources of AIDS are.

It is not my purpose here to summarize those theories or to prove any one of them as a fact. Instead I will focus on the theory, once quite popular in some circles and certainly the cause of a temporary international ruckus, that seems to have been fallen by the wayside if not/,discredited: the theory that AIDS was the result, deliberate or accidental, of chemical-biological warfare research by the US military.

On June 9, 1969 there appeared before the House of Representatives Subcommittee on Department of Defense Appropriations for 1970 one Dr. Donald M. MacArthur, Deputy Director for the DOD's Research and Technology and a former manager for the Chemistry and Life Sciences Research Center of Melpar. At

## AIDS was the result, deliberate or accidental, of chemical-biological warfare research by the United States military.

Melpar, Dr. MacArthur "was responsible for the management and direction of a large number of defense and space programs representing a broad spectrum of disciplines from instrumentation engineering to biology. These programs represented applied research in the physical and life sciences..." (1) Dr. MacArthur was one of five witnesses, three scientists and two military officers, appearing before the subcommittee to testify on the progress of US military Chemical-Biological Warfare programs and to seek appropriations for more money to develop the programs even further. (2) Dr. MacArthur spoke on the subject of "Synthetic Biological Agents". He said:

"Molecular biology is a field that is advancing very rapidly, and eminent biologists believe that within a period of 5 to 10 years it would be possible to produce a synthetic biological agent that does not naturally exist and for which no natural immunity could have been acquired." (3)

To the question of Florida Representative Robert L.F. Sikes as to whether the US was then currently engaged in such research, MacArthur answered in the negative. When Sikes, either a naif or a laconic wit, asked "Why not? Lack of money or lack of interest?", MacArthur bluntly replied, "Certainly not lack of interest."

Sikes then asked MacArthur to provide the subcommittee with information on the requirements, advantages, time and costs of such a program.MacArthur provided an outline of observations from "a small group of experts" who had considered the matter. In summary, he noted that,

1--All presently known biological agents represented "naturally occurring disease", are known to scientists world-wide, and "are easily available to qualified scientists for research, either for offensive or defensive purposes."

2--*"Within the next 5 to 10 years, it would probably be possible to make a new infective micro-organism which could differ in certain important aspects from any known disease-causing organisms. Most important of these is that it might be refractory to the immunological and therapeutic processes upon which we depend to maintain our relative freedom from infectious disease."*

3-- "A research program to explore the feasibility of this could be completed in approximately 5 years at a total cost of $10 million."

4--Such a program would be difficult to establish due to the relative newness of the molecular biology field. The field has few "highly competent scientists" and most are in private university laboratories, and "adequately supported from sources other than DOD." MacArthur did believe it possible "to initiate an adequate program through the National Academy of Sciences - National Research Council.

The matter was discussed with the NAS-NRC, and tentative plans were made to initiate the program. However, decreasing funds in CB, growing criticism of the CB program, and our reluctance to involve the NAS-NRC in such a controversial endeavor have led us to postpone it for the past 2 years."

MacArthur concluded by saying,

"It is a highly controversial issue, and there are many who believe such research should not be undertaken lest it lead to yet another method of massive killing of large populations. On the other hand, without the sure scientific knowledge that such a weapon is possible, and an understanding of the ways it could be done, there is little that can be done to devise defensive measures. Should an enemy develop it there is little doubt that this is an important area of potential military technological inferiority in which there is no adequate research program." (4)

It could be merely coincidence, but the theoretical disease that Dr. MacArthur refers to in his testimony (see #2 above), which would be "refractory [that is, *resistant*] to the immunological and therapeutic processes upon which we depend to maintain our relative freedom from infectious disease",in other words, a germ that would resist the body's own

natural system of protecting and healing itself from the ravages of infectious diseases, sounds like Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, AIDS.

After all, what better way to "acquire" an immune deficiency than if somebody put it there?

It is interesting to note how, in concluding his pitch for research into the theoretical immuno-suppressive synthetic microbe, Dr. MacArthur raised the ethical objections to it only to dismiss them, in typical and time-tested Cold War fashion, with the dread raised by the spectre of "enemy" (mainly Soviet) superiority in the Chemical-Biological Warfare race, a "germ gap" so to speak. Earlier in his testimony, he even claimed that "we have to believe they [the Soviets] are probably working in the same area." (5) The funds were awarded (as if there were any possibility that they wouldn't be), and one can only speculate what would have happened if they hadn't been disbursed. But recent revelations about the Pentagon's "Black Budget," the officially unaccounted for billions it receives for whatever purposes it deems fit, make one wonder if such public displays of the military coming to Congressional appropriations sub committees with hat in hand are merely shadow plays cynically acted out to make the public and those Congresspeople not on the inside track think that the military-industrial establishment still defers to civilian control. MacArthur's testimony shows that considerable study and planning were given beforehand to the idea of "defensive measures" against synthetic biological agents and the program to pursue such research; is it not possible that the research was already being conducted prior to the 6/9/69 hearings, that the whole procedure was merely rubberstamping after the facts?

Perhaps as a result of that "growing criticism of the CB program", in the same year as these hearings, President Nixon declared that the US would no longer produce or use biological warfare agents. Chemical warfare agents were conspicuous by their absence (this was, after all, the era of napalm and Agent Orange in Vietnam).

In 1972 an international treaty banning the use of biowarfare agents was signed by the US, but Senate ratification did not occur until 1975, leaving three years for bio-warfare R&D to produce some sort of malevolent fruit. But the treaty provided for "defensive" biological warfare research, the same sort of research that Dr. MacArthur assured Congress would be exclusively pursued. However, the difference between "defensive" and "offensive" biological warfare research is moot if not meaningless, leaving a large enough loophole to render the treaty a useless, impotent document.

The AIDS epidemic first surfaced in 1981 when reports of the first cases were documented and classified (originally as GRID-- Gay Related Immune Deficiency--until gay rights activists raised objections to the scapegoating), although in retrospect, previously inexplicable cases of deaths due to mysterious factors that fit the AIDS model were found as far back as early 1979. Some researchers have claimed to have found even earlier cases, perhaps as far back as 1976. (6)

Those first cases were of two groups of gay men in Los Angeles and New York City. The Los Angeles fatalities were due to *pneumocistis carinii pneumonia* (PCP), a previously rare pneumonia, while the New York deaths resulted from Kaposi's Sarcoma, a slow developing cancer that begins with skin lesions and works its way into the internal organs. Also previously rare, it was mainly found in elderly men of Mediterranean ethnic origins. Other than the fact that the victims in both scenarios were gay men with weakened immune systems that allowed the invasion by rare and opportunistic infections to kill them, there was nothing else to link the cases. But as the numbers of cases skyrocketed, and symptoms that had appeared separately in the New York and Los Angeles cases appeared in tandem nationwide, the media began sounding the alarm over the menace of this "gay AIDS could not have come at a worse time for the gay liberation movement. In the early 1980s, its struggle against bigotry, always an uphill battle, was dealt severe setbacks by the hate campaign orchestrated by the religious right in the late 1970s. Ronald Reagan, the darling of that same religious right was in the White House, and while homophobia alone cannot explain Reagan's election, it didn't hinder it. In effect, the gay community was already suffering from political AIDS when pathological AIDS hit it.

And it didn't take the religious right, like opportunistic diseases of the mind, long to swarm to the attack. It wasn't long before hysterical talk about tatooing AIDS patients for identification, or rounding them all up for quarantine became common, not only among the ---

## It wasn't long before hysterical talk about tatooing AIDS patients for identification, or rounding them all up for quarantine became common...

lunatic fringes of the right, but from mainstream conservatives like William F. Buckley, Jr. — and R. Emmett Tyrell, Jr. (just on the junior front). To the right, AIDS was both symbol and proof of the immorality and unnaturalness of homosexuality, and the folly of granting the perverts license to wallow in their depravity, maybe even to exist. They knew as well as gays the potential the disease contained for swaying the general (heterosexual) public away from a slowly growing but grudging acceptance of equal rights for gays and lesbians back to a reactionary position of fear and loathing.

There was certainly good reason for everyone to be concerned with the looming spread of a disease that incapacitated the immune system to the point where catching a common cold or developing an infection from a simple cut could turn into a possible death sentence. And as the disease spread to include such diverse and seemingly unconnected at-risk groups as IV drug users, hemophiliacs, and Haitians, panic and confusion spread with the news. What was going on here anyway? What was the missing link between the four designated at-risk groups? Elaborate, often illogical theories were offered to explain that link, as well as the origin of the disease. Among the more ludicrous origin theories, the more so since it was taken entirely seriously for quite some time, was the African Green Monkey theory. It postulated that the transmission of AIDS began when a human being in Africa was bitten by a AIDS-carrying monkey, or the monkey was eaten by the human, or the human had sex with the monkey. This black African human being, or someone he/she had transmitted the virus to, eventually transmitted it to a white American homosexual, who infected other gays, etc. The inability to find any natural analog to the AIDS virus in primates hasn't deterred this theory from still finding credence in certain circles (such as Lyndon LaRouche's various crackpot front groups), or from slipping into urban legend.

Some other culprits considered as the source of AIDS were dioxin, arboviruses (spread by flying insects,like mosquitoes) such as maguari and dengue, Swine Fever Virus, radiation from electrical fields, nutritional deficiencies, inhalation of amyl nitrite "poppers" by gay men (used to enhance and prolong orgasm), and a new strain of syphilis misdiagnosed as a new disease. Proponents of all theories were able to marshall enough facts to make their theory as believable as the next, especially those who could point to AIDS and AIDS- like symptoms in people not fitting the profile of any at-risk group. But it was more difficult to reconcile the various theories to explain the by now (mid 80s) worldwide AIDS pandemic. Brazil was second only to the US in reported cases, and the disease was devastating central Africa, where it was primarily a heterosexual phenomenon.

Was there more than one type of AIDS? It certainly seemed so at times. How else could its far-flung empire of diverse subjects be accounted for? And why now, all at once? Certainly a handful of faggots couldn't be held responsible for all <u>this</u>, could they? Gradually the prominence of the "gay plague" began to diminish in importance for all but the most rabid homophobes, who believed AIDS was God's punishment on homosexuals and its spread to non-gays as His wrath at tolerance of them.

There was one other theory on the origin of AIDS: that it was man-made, genetically engineered in some laboratory and released, either accidentally or deliberately, on a world unprepared for it. It was a claim that cut across political and sexual lines, and caused a war of words between the two belligerent superpowers, then at the height of renewed cold war tensions.

On July 4, 1984, the New Delhi, India newspaper **The Patriot** published an article making the first detailed charges of AIDS being a CBW agent. An anonymous American anthropologist was quoted claiming that AIDS was genetically engineered at the US Army's Biological Warfare Laboratory at Fort Detrick, near Frederick, Maryland. To prove its point, articles from the Army's own official magazine **Army Research, Development, and Acquisition** were cited. The authors of one cited article were Lt. Col. Karl Pedersen, Jr. and Col. John Albertson, the (then) director of the Institute of Infectious Diseases and Director of the Medical

Engineering Laboratory, respectively. The article cited dealt with "natural and artificial influences on the human immune system." (7) **The Patriot** article also claimed that "Fort Detrick scientists, with the help of the Centers for Disease Control, and under Pentagon contract, traveled to Zaire and Nigeria, and then to Latin America, to collect information on a 'powerful virus that could not be found in Europe or Asia.'" (8)

But it wasn't until the Soviet journal **Literaturnya Gazeta** repeated the charges made by the Indian newspaper, on October 30, 1985, that the accusation became an international controversy. The story was picked up worldwide, but American newspapers, predictably, ignored the story until the US government officially denounced the Soviet article as Soviet anti-American disinformation, and leaving it at that, gave it no more attention, it being the perogative of a free press to merely parrot official state doctrine if it so wishes.

But the Soviets continued to cover the story, quoting two physicians, John Seale, a London venereologist, and Nathaniel Lehrman, an American psychiatrist to back their claims. This gained an official protest from the US ambassador to the Soviet Union. (9) But in the meantime, in 1986, a pair of East German Scientists, Jakob and Lilli Segal, issued a 52 page pamphlet **AIDS: USA Home Made Evil; Not Imported from Africa**, which they distributed in English-speaking African countries. Just more commie agitprop?

The Segal's were visited by two American embassy officials in East Berlin on October 10, 1986. "The officials,claimed to be a historian and political counsel, respectively. But Segal said, 'I am positive they were from the CIA---and that they were deeply concerned that the cover-up over the origin of AIDS was going to be exposed.' The officials questioned Segal about 'what he knows, what he thinks, where he got his information from, and what he intends doing with his report.' The State department acknowledged sending officials to the Segal home, but said it was merely 'to point out the fallacies of the report.'" (10)

This account was related in an article from the London **Sunday Express** of October 26, 1986. The usually conservative tabloid interviewed Segal (stressing that, although resident of a communist country, he held no particular political views), Seale, and an American, Dr. Robert Strecker, another proponent of the AIDS as bio-warfare agent theory. The **Express** story alarmed the State Department more than any other incident prior to it, because it was the first time the charge had been made in a Western paper, one that couldn't be accused of being a communist front for disinformation, as the State department eventually did to the New Delhi **Patriot** in an official "chronology of disinformation campaign" it released on April 1, 1987. (Was that a coincidence, or did someone in the State Department have a sophisticated but cynical sense of humor?)

The war of words continued into 1987 until it eventually died off in the light of more pressing (to the two states) concerns. But ignored by both sides was the fact that speculations about the possible artificial origin and deliberate deployment of AIDS had circulated throughout the alternative, especially gay, press for years before the **Patriot** story. As an example, a gay newspaper, **New York Native**, ran a letter from an anonymous source who claimed to have worked at Fort Detrick's Biological Warfare Lab, and that it had deliberately released AIDS with the intention to infect gay men as part of a program called "Operation Firm Hand." (11)

In 1969, after Richard Nixon's supposed ban on the production of CBW agents, part of the grounds at Fort Detrick's Biological Warfare Laboratory were renamed the Frederick Cancer Research Facility and given to the National Cancer Institute for civilian medical research, ostensibly. The military's grounds were also renamed as U.S. Army Medical Research Institute for Infectious Diseases, ostensibly dedicated exclusively, in conformity with Nixon s great humanitarian crusade, to only "defensive" research into CBW, Just like Dr. MacArthur promised Congress. But, "within two years of its foundation, the Institute's staff and budget had trebled." (12)

Even one who does not accept the AIDS as military conspiracy theory must wonder exactly what use the National Cancer Institute and the Army's Bio-Warfare Lab would have for each other. Odder still was the fact that the NCI's AIDS Task Force, directed by Dr. Robert Gallo, announced in 1984 that it had discovered the cause of AIDS, a virus dubbed HIV--Human Immunosuppressive Virus; and this only a year after the search was begun--in conjunction with the Frederick Cancer Research Facility. At first glance this would seem to deny the possibility of Fort Detrick being the birthplace of AIDS. After all, if the military were engaged in a clandestine program to kill off homosexuals or other minorities by disease, why would

they let the civilian researchers they shared facilities with discover the means by which they did it and threaten to blow their cover?

The government often has its own reasons for leaking otherwise"sensitive" information, often highly selective, to certain individuals at special times. If the army *accidentally* released into the civilian population a bio-warfare experiment that became known as AIDS, and felt compelled to find a cure for it (remember: Dr. MacArthur was seeking funding for study of a CBW micro-organism that would be resistant to immunological processes, a disease with no known cure. It isn't likely that army scientists, considering the business they're in, would think of making the cure first), they might find it more expedient to invite in civilians, on various "need-to-know" bases, to do the dirty work of cleaning up their mess, possibly even manipulating them into thinking they "discovered" the culprit all by themselves.

Whether or not the military conceived AIDS, they definitely were curious about it once it became known:

"On February 18, 1987, the Philadelphia **Daily News** carried a McClatchy News Service report that Col. David L. Huxsoll, chief of UAAMRIID, told a meeting of scientists that the Soviet charges [of US creation of AIDS] were unfounded 'disinformation". In his zeal to disprove the allegations, Huxsoll reportedly added, '...studies at the Army laboratories have shown that the AIDS virus would be an extremely poor biological warfare agent.' When contacted by the author [Robert Lederer] Huxsoll denied having made the statement... The McClatchy reporter told the author [RL] that Huxsoll had been quite clear. 'He specifically said that once it [AIDS] surfaced, they screened it as they do any infectious agent. He said they had definitely looked at it.'" (13)

The Pentagon itself admitted in a press release in April, 1987 that it was involved in research to find a cure for AIDS. But why? What possible motivation could the *military*, of all institutions, have in combatting AIDS? The military's record of concern for the rights and welfare of gay and minority personnel is pretty pathetic; what would be its reason for helping in finding a cure for a disease that primarily inflicted gays and non-white peoples? Compassion? Not bloody likely.

The real reason the military had (and presumably still does) such an overwhelming interest in a cure for AIDS was and is a bit more self-serving and sinister. According to a 1987 story in a California newspaper (14),

"The US military is stockpiling vaccines and drugs to be used to protect the armed forces--but not civilians--during a biological war...

But the military's research in the field--including a search for an anti-AIDS drug--is unclassified, and the treatments do find non-military uses, said Col. David L. Huxsoll

Col. Huxsoll, whom we have previously met, claimed that the institute had developed "16 vaccines and drugs against natural toxins and viruses", but didn't have the "budgets big enough to lay down a sizable stockpile of these kinds of materials." What the military did have was stockpiles "intended for about 3 million people, including all the armed forces, reservists, and the national guard." Colonel Huxsoll maintained that the researchers at Fort Detrick did not over-step the bounds of the anti-biowarfare treaty. "Talking about altering an organism, I'm not going to try to second guess how somebody could alter that...There's enough bad organisms out there that you don't have to fiddle around and make new ones." He related that after animal-testing of a drug or vaccine, tests were then made on humans, "volunteer servicemen." (According to Dr. Jacob Segal, the testees were neither "volunteers" nor servicemen, but prisoners promised their freedom for their participation as guinea pigs. These contaminated ex-cons then were set loose to spread the AIDS virus with which they had been infected).

Whether or not the military conceived AIDS, they definitely were curious about it once it became known...

Colonel Huxsoll didn't mention the Pentagon's other plans, made public less than a year before, to contain the spread of AIDS by "mandatory and overt identification" of the AIDS inflicted by "a 'Star of David' concept"--as in the yellow hexagram badges Jews in Nazi Germany were required to wear in public, all the easier to identify them with when it came time to cart them off to the concentration camps, a proposal the Pentagon seemed to have been keeping on hold until the right time, such as when public hysteria reached a high enough peak for such a blatantly fascistic proposal to become palatable to the huddled masses. (15)

The proposal, based on the completely false claim that AIDS can be transmitted through casual contact (such as touching a doorknob or toilet seat),"was initiated by two [San Francisco] Bay Area-based centers with a long history of military research... AIMS (Advanced Investigation of Medical Science) Group, has done classified work on biological and chemical warfare... [and] the Hoover Institute, the anti-Soviet think tank which lists Ronald Reagan as an honorary member." (16) [Another Hoover Institute member embroiled in the AIDS controversy was the late philosopher Sidney Hook, who was active in the US counter-campaign against Soviet claims of US engineering of AIDS. To Hook, anyone who suggested the possibility of AIDS being the product of US military research, such as Dr. Robert Strecker, was a Soviet disinformation agent. A self-described "humanist" and "democratic socialist", Hook's membership in the reactionary Hoover Institute and "loyal oppositionist" defense of the US government raise some interesting questions.]

Again it must be asked, what was the Pentagon up to with this frightening proposal? To round up and eliminate the loose ends of their botched experiment, perhaps? What jurisdiction does the military have in a public health crisis, and more importantly in a supposed democracy, should it have any? Was AIDS an *agent provocateur* created to produce just the sort of internal "clear and present danger" that would justify suspension of civil liberties and the imposition of martial law?

But if the military-security apparatus did indeed create AIDS and picked homosexuals as the scapegoats to inflict it upon in order to precipitate a national emergency requiring a fascist solution, how was it done? The answer might lie in the trial of a hepatitis B vaccine conducted in New York City in November, 1978. Candidates were specified to be only non-monogamous males between the ages of 20 and 40, and according to one source (17), "homosexuals received a different vaccine from heterosexuals." The tests were conducted under the auspices of the National Institutes of Health and the Center for Disease Control, two institutions that would figure prominently later in the AIDS story. Between 1040 and 1083 gay men were inoculated. Two months later, in January, 1979, the first known case of AIDS was diagnosed. By 1981,25-50% of those homosexual men who had received the vaccine had AIDS. By 1984, it was 64%, the figures for subsequent infection rates of participants in that suspicious study are allegedly "unavailable", safe in the hands of the Justice Department. (18)

Then, in 1982, more gay men were "vaccinated" in Chicago, St. Louis, Denver, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, a total of 1402. (19) The gay plague was on.

But if this "vaccination program" was the source of the AIDS virus among the white homosexuals, what is the connection to Haitians, IV drug users, and hemophiliacs? And what is the source of the nearly continent-wide AIDS plague in Africa?

The official mainstream media AIDs theory, courtesy of Dr. Robert Gallo, official (American) "discoverer" of HIV/HTLV-III, went like this: AIDS originated in Africa (remember the Green Monkey) where it was transmitted to Haitian teachers in the former Belgian Congo. These Haitians brought it back with them to Haiti, where slumming white gay American tourists contracted it from Haitian male prostitutes--and the rest is history. Obviously IV drug users are brought into this easily, some gay junkie supposedly passing his needle to another but non-gay junkie. Hemophiliacs come in from contaminated blood supplies.

But what is the origin of AIDS in Africa? Both human beings and green monkeys have co-existed in Africa for countless eras, why did this disease suddenly surface in the late twentieth century? Why not earlier? Why now?

"An attempt should be made to ascertain whether viruses can in fact exert selective effects on immune function, e.g. by... affecting T cell function as opposed to B cell function. The possibility should also be looked into that the immune response to the virus itself may be impaired if the infecting virus damages more or less selectively the cells responding to the viral antigens." (20)

## Was AIDS an *agent provocateur* created to produce just the sort of internal "clear and present danger" that would justify suspension of civil liberties and the imposition of martial law?

That was not from Dr. MacArthur's testimony before Congress in 1969, that comes from a 1972 bulletin of the United Nations' World Health Organization. Once again it would appear that AIDS or something that preceded it, was on the minds of many researchers prior to its official "discovery."

On May 11, 1987, on a front-page, headline story, the London **Times** declared "Smallpox Vaccine Triggered AIDS". The vaccination program took place throughout Africa in the mid-1970s and was conducted by WHO. In exactly those areas where the WHO vaccination program was undertaken are to be found the areas most devastated by AIDS. It would be interesting to know who was the major funder of the program, and which nation furnished the key personnel. (21)

According to Dr. Robert Strecker, AIDS was predicted (and in medical science, prediction does not so much mean a projection into the future of a personal opinion, but making an educated guess based on probabilities and knowledge of current research in the field) as early as 1975 by a cancer researcher from Denmark, a J. Corbensen, who, at a convention of cancer researchers in Tokyo warned that an pandemic--a worldwide epidemic--of viral cancer was imminent. He warned that it would cause more deaths than the great flu epidemic of 1918, which killed an estimated one-fifth to one-third of the world's population, and blamed it all on scientists irresponsibly growing animal viruses in human tissue cell culture. When contacted by Dr. Strecker regarding his predictions, Corbensen denied ever having made the speech, despite its being printed in the **Bibliographica Haemologica**, a professional journal, the same year. (22) Corbensen worked for, according to Dr. Strecker, the World Health Organization.

Dr. Strecker himself deserves more attention. He got into AIDS research by accident. A private practitioner from the Los Angeles area, he and his brother Ted, a lawyer, were asked to prepare a proposal for a HMO (Health Maintenance Organization) for Security Pacific Bank of California. What they needed to know was how much money for potential AIDS treatments for infected employees their health insurance would be required to pay out. In their research, the Strecker brothers came to the stunning conclusion that AIDS was a man-made disease, that it was not a homosexual disease nor a venereal disease, that it could be carried and transmitted by mosquitoes, that there were at least *six* different AIDS viruses worldwide, and that condoms would not prevent the spread of AIDS. AIDS was, Dr. Strecker concluded, actually a form of viral cancer, and contagious. He theorized that AIDS was a hybrid, the splicing together of bovine (cow) leukemia virus and sheep visna (brain-rot) virus, a lethal combination and one hard to understand as emerging spontaneously from nature.

Dr. Strecker's vision of a humanity infected with the fatal product of some military research laboratory gone insane is a grim one. He estimated the complete decimation of Africa by the turn of the century, and the complete overnight death of Japan. Strecker warned that unless a cure for AIDS was found--soon--that the entire human race faced possible extermination.

Strecker's opinions were treated by the mass media in the usual fashion: he was either ridiculed or simply ignored. He was one of those accused by Sidney Hook of being a Soviet disinformation agent. Strecker may be an alarmist with a particularly pessimistic viewpoint, but for a man who supposedly doesn't know what he is talking about, strange and tragic coincidences have plagued him since he began to lecture the public on the real cause of AIDS and its creator(s). The first of these was the mysterious death of his brother Ted, who helped him pursue the AIDS investigation. He was found dead of a gunshot wound in his Springfield, Missouri home on August 11, 1988, apparently self-inflicted. Dr. Strecker admits that "in the past he suffered from depression and monumental frustration at the relative lack of interest in his findings. Dr. Strecker spoke with him the night before his death. Ted was cheerful, in good spirits, and looking forward to certain new developments that promised progress. The next day

he was found dead, his 22 caliber rifle next to him. No note, no message, no goodbyes to anyone. "Very untypical of him."(23)

Another fatality close to Dr. Strecker was Illinois state representative Douglas Huff who was found dead in his home of an overdose of heroin and cocaine on September 22, 1988. Huff had been beating the drum on the AIDS cover-up in both the Illinois state house and through the media, one of the few politicians who took Dr. Strecker seriously enough to try to present his views to a larger, and a more influential audience.

Perhaps Dr. Strecker's brother really committed suicide in a fit of deep depression, perhaps Rep. Huff was only a drug-addled paranoid trying to gain notoriety. Perhaps that is exactly the impression somebody wanted theses two men to leave behind them, in order to discredit themselves and Dr. Strecker. (22)

Perhaps the main reason why the AIDS-Biowarfare conspiracy theory seems to be less palatable to many these days might have something to do with the discrediting of the HIV hypothesis. While the biowarfare theory does not necessarily require the HIV-as-sole-cause-of -AIDS theory as a foundation to be built upon, the emergence of new, alternative treatments and therapies that have had much success in helping AIDS patients to regain their health and lives and cast serious doubt upon the official CDC/NIH position on HIV. AIDS patients treated as if they were suffering from syphilis, given massive doses of penicillin and typhoid vaccine showed remarkable turnaround. Co-factors were begun to be seen as increasingly important, and even Dr. Luc Montagnier who isolated HIV even before Robert Gallo (Montagnier called it LAV, and decided to share credit for its discovery--and royalties for the blood test which detects the antibody to the virus--with Gallo after a long litigation that included a war of words between the US and French governments, and donate the royalties to an AIDS research foundation. All this while people were dying slow, lingering deaths...) has now repudiated the HIV hypothesis, claiming that the real culprits are mycoplasmas, microbes that seem to be the deadly co-factor to the HIV virus. (25)

Yet while research continues to unravel the mystery surrounding the cause of AIDS, disturbing connections to military germ warfare continue to arise.

A scientist with the US Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington, Shyh-Ching Lo, identified a previously unknown infectious agent in people with AIDS, a mycoplasma microbe which caused AIDS-like symptoms and death in monkeys, something that the injection of merely HIV into animals has supposedly never done. Lo named his discovery VLIA, for Virus Like Infectious Agent. Lo has kept a low profile, partially because "army security is keeping a very tight lid on Dr. Lo's findings." (26)

Once again the military's interest in this phenomena raises questions as to the nature of their concern with AIDS. Why does the military always seem to be hovering on the periphery of AIDS research, if not in the middle of it? The government 's, especially the military's, covert experimentations on unwitting American citizens, both individuals and large populations, is precedented and documented, more than can be summarized here (27). So it hardly seems responsible to dismiss those who insist upon a military connection to AIDS as mere paranoids or political opportunists until serious investigations into the matter have been made.

But unfortunately, such an investigation, should it be conducted, would find itself encountered by one greater obstacle after another, because the problem is not merely the military and any covert biowarfare experiments (or worse) that it may be conducting, but the entire system. Now more than ever, the American government is a power unto itself, the apparatus that serves the interests of an elite, amoral clique and not that of the people as a whole. To expect truth and justice from a state that can block every inquiry with the excuse of "national security" is to expect too much. To solve the AIDS mystery may well require a radical cure of more than a medical nature.

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**G. J. Krupey's work has appeared in *Loompanics' Greatest Hits* and *Apocalypse Culture*. He is currently collaborating on a Japanese historical novel.**

# Mysterium Coniunctionis

## *On The Hidden and Oppository Parallels Between Anti-Esotericist Conspiratology and Traditional Esoteric Teachings*

**by Tim O'Neill**

There is an inherent human desire for a sense of order, centrality and certainty, in a universe which seems to move in mysterious, vibrant and perhaps chaotic patterns. With this deeply-seeded constellation of mental patterns revolving around the need for a centralized source, the tendency is usually to seek out a unified and highly artificial world-view when the truth is far more likely to be closer to the labyrinthine, weblike and multi-valent network of monadic "events" existing somewhere outside the framework of time and space. In illuminist terms, it is only when the eye is "single" that it can even begin to discern the hidden conjunctive unity behind polar opposites of historical movement. The single eye of Horus...

...one of the greatest symbols of the true esoteric tradition is often pointed out by conspiratologists as damning proof of "fascistic" intent of the Illumist tradition. The idea behind this assertion is that the single eye really represents the autocratic, theocratic and dictatorial aspects of the personage or cabal employing it. This old symbol really suggests a strange similarity between the world-view of conspiratology and the doctrine, taught in traditional metaphysics, of the Pythagorean principle of the "many out of the one"...the cosmological principle of the Emanation of Being. Just as esotericists seek to trace the existence of unity behind the mask of apparent complexity, so conspiratologists seek to discover the "One": the unified source of historical movement in all-encompassing cabals, individuals, or metaphysical forces. On this model, virtually all conspiracy theories revolve around:

1. A human-based cabal, such as Speculative Freemasonry, the various groups of Illuminati, or an intelligence agency, such as the CIA

2. An exceptional human individual, such as Adam Weishaupt or Adolf Hitler, who is, again of ten the leader of a cabal

3. Non-human beings or forces, such as extraterrestrials, demons, angels, Satan and other spiritual, metaphysical or quasi-physical entities.

As a practicing esotericist and initiated Illuminist, I would certainly be the first to admit that there does, in fact, exist some unified guiding energy or force which lies behind the patterns of human evolution as designer. This "figure" is often codified into such symbolic complexes as the "Great Architect of the Universe" or "The Lord of the World," which are essentially deist conceptions that transcend the more anthropomorphic figure "Yahweh," warrior god of the desert nomads. Having admitted that traditional esoteric teaching does hold a centralized force of Being and Wisdom extended throughout the length and breadth of space an time through a mysterious process called "Emanation," we have opened the door to the prime directive of conspiracy theory...to discover "who" is ultimately in charge!

In point of fact, the ultimate conspiracy theory would involve the mysterious "Lord of the World," also known as the "Fisher King," "Prestor John," "Melchisadek," or "The King of the Grail" in Arthurian legend. Every one of our three potential categories of conspiracy theory can be easily seen to reside beneath the figure of the all-wise, omnipotent and all-seeing World-King. His Being is a trans-human and trans-non-human essentia, which melds extraterrestrial, spiritual and human into a powerful matrix.

The cores of both conspiracy theory and traditional metaphysics thus contain a strikingly similar proposition: "That there is a 'one' at the core of history." The separation of viewpoints, or "Primal Scission," of these two world-views, occurs as soon

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**The need at the root of conspiracy questing is to find the source for human pain and suffering.**

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as the problem of "Evil" enters consideration. "Evil" is, of course, the fuel which fires conspiracy theory in its essence. The need at the root of conspiracy questing is to find the source for human pain and suffering...our primal existence of disharmony and disunity...which is held to flow out of some central fountain, running in rivulets throughout the world. In most conspiracy theory, evil exists as an absolute metaphysical reality, nigh on a **substance**, which can poison life through viral contamination. For traditional metaphysics, evil is seen as an abstract tool for the ultimate universal attainment of harmony. Under this theory, light would have no meaning without shadow and the two will always coexist as aspects of the transcendent. There is a very old Gnostic myth that Shaitan, Lord of the Shadows, is actually the twin brother of Christos, acting with him in hidden harmony, in order to further the evolution of Humankind into more open fields of awareness and wisdom.

Thus, we find a subtle morphological mirroring between metaphysical teaching and conspiratology which resides in a common desire to find the ultimate source for history. The usual structural model for conspiratologists involves a cabal or secret society which actively seeks to exert universal dominion and evil through invidious infiltration (or "emanation") into the lifestream of history. The purpose of metaphysical teaching is also to discover the "one," however the "one" who is sought transcends the oppositions of slavery and freedom, light and dark, good and evil. As hard as conspiratologists seek, they will never find an earthly group either capable of or responsible for ruling the World. What they will eventually find at the Center, if they press forth hard enough, is an ultimately benevolent force of universal evolution with its own Wisdom and Being, which seeks only to open the "Singhle Eye" that it might see again! This force, for all of its purely impersonal and transcendent benevolence, is also capable of using what we have cognized as "evil" or pain to further the work of evolving awareness...a force which presses forward, whether we as individuals are ready to move forward or not.

The paradox remains, that while conspiracy theory tends to provide us with panoramic and "mind-blowing" vistas onto aspects of hidden history, what it is really doing is focussing upon the shadow side of the Great Temple. It is this higher level of transcendence, along with its rich and multivalent complexity which conspiratology simply misses in its quest for the One. The conspiratological world-view has tremendous value for the discernment of certain difficult-to-identify aspects of historical trends within the transcendent system, however it mistakes the part of the whole and the shadow for the light. That there **is** a great universal "conspiracy"...a hidden force moving history into certain guided arenas, I will not doubt, however, it is clearly toward the ultimate goal of universal sentience and Illumination that we must look. This is a conspiracy hidden out in the open for all to see, since the best way to preserve a secret is to reveal it! The golden dreams of Illuminists and the pitch-black nightmares of conspiratology do both have tremendous reality to them. It is our task to rise above both to discover the hidden third term in the dialectic and to discover what actually might lie beyond good and evil...in a place where the true metaphysical foundations of Conspiracy originate...at the end of Time and Space.

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( ) Unauthorized Correspondent.
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Very truly yours,

R. G. BORG, WARDEN

# Hotel Kalifornia

## by Wayne Henderson

The stock-in-trade stands at approximately one million units, requiring minimal upkeep. A minimum of $30,000 changes hands on each unit, per annum; and supply of new units, handled by a string of related companies, is constant.

Welcome to one of the most profitable growth industries in the state of California. Welcome to the California Department of Corrections (CDC).

The tens of billions of dollars that change hands each year in the normal, day-to-day operations of the CDC represent only the largest segment of this industry; one must also factor in the $20,000 per annum that changes hands for each occupied unit in the extensive network of county jails that peppers the state from the forested north to the Mexican border. Accurate figures for this network are hard to come by. The county jails feed the burgeoning "stock" of the CDC warehouses at an alarming rate. As prisoners are released back into the community, a high rate of recidivism is maintained by likely the most unbalanced parole system in existence, one that guarantees that, for all intents and purposes, anyone arrested, at any time, in the state of California will indeed be returned for several one-year stays as "parole violators," even if the parole violation occurs in the absence of any crime.

With such a high amount of guaranteed income generated each year, and protected (if not expanded) by governmental mandate, one might assume that those employed by the CDC as guards (or in one of the related capacities in the prisons) would be among the highest paid civil service employees in the state, if not the entire country, but such is not the case. The majority of correctional officers are low-paid scut-workers, glorified stockboys, their paycheck annually equalling roughly the amount

allocated for upkeep of one prisoner. As the correctional workers are outnumbered by the prisoners, at a ratio in the neighborhood of 20:1, this is actually minimal cash output for the higher-ups.

The average CDC guard is undereducated, from a position of disadvantage in the community, poorly-trained (but heavily indoctrinated in the "US vs. THEM" ideology held by police departments) and encouraged, by CDC policy, to consider the prisoners somewhat less than human. The **real** money is pocketed by the higher-ups, as in any industry, a private "Old Boys" network of inexperienced but well-connected wardens such as the warden at Folsom State Prison, Robert Borg . Borg received his post , recently vacated by the corrupt Camp and his family, from friends in the CDC administrative offices in Sacramento due to his legendary abilities on the handball court, rather than any discernable ability , let alone experience , in wardening a Level 4 (high security) prison.

A brief trip through the system that feeds the CDC--a close-up look at the "criminal justice" process in California--would likely be the best illustration of the problem.

First comes the arrest. Police in the state of California, from the lowest traffic cop on the California Highway Patrol to the much better-connected inspectors in the various departments of the larger city police forces, are expected to fill a monthly quota. To fall below this quota incurs penalties, hence every officer, no matter what his relative position in the pecking order, makes certain to fill, if not exceed, his or her quota before the end of the month.

So you've helped a nice police officer make quota. You've entered the system. First up, there is the intake procedure: a brief medical exam (generally a medical technical assistant, or MTA, asking a list of questions regarding previous infections), followed by an intake officer who checks you for gang-oriented tattoos. Recently, an AIDS test has been added to the procedure, years too late. Once intake is completed, one is ungently escorted to the holding cells, only a few county facilities boast individual cells anymore, the overwhelming majority use "tanks," large 8, 12, 24 or higher capacity cages, dorm style, in which you will reside from time of arrest until - ? For many incarcerees, the stay is brief; they've been arrested before, done time before, and whether they've been detained for a simple parole violation (something as minor as having a roommate move in with them without first clearing it with a parole officer), or for a serious crime such as rape or murder, the parole violator will be offered the chance, in most cases, to plead guilty to the parole violation, take a year's stay in prison, and all other charges are dropped.

For the first-time arrestee, however, Prosecutors and police departments fear the first-time arrestee. He or she is an unknown quantity. Worse yet is the first-time arrestee who might well, judging from the evidence in the case, be innocent of the charges, someone whose guilt, though assumed by the prosecution, is questionable. Convicts, whether in prison or on parole, have a lower life expectancy than the run of the general population, hence replacements are needed periodically to keep CDC stocked and provide the various cities and counties with fresh blood, need to be brought into the system. But who knows what connections the new faces have or what to expect from them? County jail and the trial by ordeal process generally pigeonhole the newcomer quite handily. A willingness to implicate others, especially those that the investigators mention during questioning, or a willingness to take a deal without putting the county courts through a lengthy trial fraught with work and expense for all involved, is generally taken as an indication that this arrestee qualifies for a lower-custody-level prison, a shorter prison term, perhaps even to have some of the charges dropped. The uncooperative demand a jury trial and can generally expect to have charges enhanced enhanced or added (I saw the charges against me rise from four to seven, and the severity of the charges increase ten-fold, after preliminary hearing because I refused to take a deal) will receive the maximum penalty if at all possible, and can generally count on confinement in the worst and highest security prisons.

Prosecutors, no less than police, have quotas. To lose one case is an embarrassment; to fall below conviction quota brings penalties. If it is necessary to "fudge" the facts a bit, to have investigators make return trips to "counsel" the

**Abuse of police power in California is legendary. The celebrated Rodney King incident is but a tip of the iceberg.**

witnesses, then that's the price a prosecutor must pay to keep filling quota. Normally, however, the county jail itself is enough to pressure a detainee into taking a deal. In Los Angeles, the staff of the county jail relies on brutality; in San Francisco, the main tool in unhealthy conditions. Each county has its specialty. Each county jail administrator expects the detainee to show the good sense to take a deal and leave quickly for a more comfortable cage in prison. My own stay in the San Francisco county jail, at four and one-half years, is one of the five longest stays in that facility, a stay that brought down on me the wrath of Captain Frank Cook, the facility commandant, who couldn't understand why anyone, no matter how much they protested their non-complicity in the charged crimes, wouldn't just be a good boy and plead guilty to something, freeing up another bed in his facility.

The majority of defendant are provided with overworked, underpaid, and thoroughly apathetic public defenders, most of whom aspire for a better-paying job in the office of the District Attorney, and jockey for the few available positions in that office by cooperating as much as possible with the prosecutors against whom they're paired in court. Trade on cases is rampant. "You let me get a criminal trespass on this robbery and I'll get the rape to plead grievous assault by the end of the week." The lives of defendants are oft sold out for as little as a "power lunch" that will advance the defense attorney's career. Worse yet are the attorneys in private practice who specialize in handing court-appointed cases, especially when two or more defendants are charged in the same cases. Handling divorces and other such cases to keep their private practices valid, the court-appointed attorneys do even less work than the public defenders. Attorneys in the public defenders' office are required to prepare and file all their own motions, generating a massive amount of court paperwork. All that is required of a court-appointed attorney is to put in an appearance at the court dates and "join" in the motion presented by the public defender - no paperwork, indeed no work at all, required - and the court appointed attorney takes home a sizeable paycheck for no more than putting in a brief appearance and mumbling a sentence or two.

In four and a half years at the San Francisco county jail, I only rarely saw a defendant win a case. Judge's careers are built on rates on conviction and sentencing.

Intake into the CDC is essentially a repeat of the county jail process. The bored MTA asks the same old questions in monotone; the AIDS test; the ensconcement in a cell; then comes the committee. Classification committees are those CDC employes who decide on the placement in one of the myriad state prison facilities based upon the paperwork generated by the county authorities as well as their own mood at the time. Be a prisoner who refused to take a deal seated before them on a bad day and you'll likely wind up at the worst possible facility. I currently rest at 33 security points, qualifying me for a Level Three prison (such as the California Men's Colony or the Vacaville Medical Facility and Intake Center), but am maintained at Level Four Folsom because I had the audacity to turn down a deal for twenty years.

Once within the CDC system, you become, for all practical purposes, the property of the state. You mail and "care" packages are opened and anything that appeals to the guards employed in the mailroom or in the receiving area is "confiscated as contraband." You are eligible to be pressed into service in the Prison Industries Authority shops at your prison, virtual slave labor that pays a maximum of 90 cents an hour to the prisoner and reaps major profits for the hierarchy in Sacramento. Most prison jobs don't quite pay that well. The average is actually closer to $30 a month, but there are plans to move a major number of prisoners south to the new, ultramodern, all industrial facility in Imperial Valley, scheduled to open by early next year. While the inmate pay won't increase, the profits will. Prisoners are also subject to covert medical experimentation. Recently, the AIDS confinement unit at Vacaville was made "voluntary" and "overflow" from the AIDS unit has been transferred here to Folsom, where they are free on the mainline, unidentified, and interspersed among the uninfected population. A friend spoke briefly with a Lt.'s clerk who had actually seen a

copy of the list of AIDS cases on mainline here and was able to report that there are approximately 250 such people; between 70 and 80 in cell block #2 and an equal number in cell block #3 alone. Exchange of bodily fluids, via a shared cigarette, or joint, or cup of coffee, is endemic in prison. The majority of prisoners here will be released into the community well before any symptoms appear. Most prisoners, on release, make it their first priority to acquire sexual gratification and a dose of the drug of their choice, in no particular order, thereby serving to spread this designer virus even further in the population. Further, on October 22, 1991, the entire CDC system underwent "Tuberculosis testing," involving the injection, subcutaneously, of an unidentified fluid, mandatory for all incarcerees. While it might be the height of paranoia to assume that the CDC would forcibly infect all prisoners with some designed virus, one with an extended gestation period that would permit the CDC perhaps another ten years useful work out of each of the recipients, one should remember that the AIDS virus was spread in a very similar way, via smallpox and "experimental" hepatitus vaccines, and that charges have been made against clinics presently introducing other "vaccines" into the population. It is hardly beyond plausibility that the CDC would sentence all incarcerees to a slow, lingering, and yet productive death.

The current governor of the state of California, Pete Wilson, seems to oppose the construction of new prisons. Unlike his predecessor, George Dukemeijian, under whom new facilities sprouted up like mushrooms after a thunderstorm, so it is possible that the CDC found itself at the tail end of a long line of contributors and friends in the new governor's retinue. Nonetheless, those numerous prisons built under the previous regime yet stand and are being opened only slightly past their original deadlines. Older prisons are not being decommissioned and the populations remain stable. The only logical assumption must be that more people will be fed, with or without cause, into the gaping maw of the ever hungry CDC system. California presently has incarcerated more prisoners than any **country** on earth, let alone more than any other state in the union. According to a report of the ACLU, at least one quarter of all prisoners in California are imprisoned wrongly, worse than even the 16 percent rate of wrongful conviction in the backward states of the deep south. Abuse of police power in California is legendary. The celebrated Rodney King incident is but a tip of the iceberg.

What does all this mean? It points unswervingly to a massive increase in arrests, more convictions, more enslavement of innocent people or people of questionable guilt, to serve the moneymaking machine of the CDC. In the absence of outside regulatory oversight, with no input from the electorate (save the investment of 30,000,000,000 tax dollars per year), it is not inconceivable that the CDC could, within the next ten years, have perhaps one in ten residents of the state (the total is now in the neighborhood of one in twenty) incarcerated, producing further profits for the CDC administrators in Sacramento.

**Wayne Henderson currently resides at California State Prison at Folsom.**

# Wilhelm Reich Died For Einstein's Sins

**by Jim Martin**

The editor has asked me to answer the question: what, in the final analysis, brought the wrath of the government down upon Wilhelm Reich, M.D., and was he murdered, and if so, how? From my perspective, I think the most dangerous work that Reich was involved in wasn't advocating children's sexual rights, or his penetrating analysis of the patriarchal family and fascism, nor even his invention of the orgone accumulator: the single most important therapeutic technique ever discovered, bar none. The real reason Wilhelm Reich, M.D., was imprisoned was because he stumbled onto some scary facts about nuclear radiation during a critical point in that newly developed industry during the early 1950s.

Simply put, Reich found that there is no shielding possible against the biological effects of nuclear radiation. In 1952, in what was called **The Oranur Experiment**, Reich placed a small sample of a radioisotope inside a powerful orgone accumulator. Reich's shocking report, which can be found in the now out-of-print **Selected Writings**, details how radiation sickness is a function of the organism's response to invasive radiation, and not a direct result of the radiation poisoning itself. Thus different people may be more susceptible to very minute doses, while others may feel no noticeable effects; each person's reaction is different according to their own character structure.

It must be recalled that at that time there was little understanding of the biological effects of small doses of radiation. Many people remember that soldiers were sent directly into test sights, shortly after the dust cleared from nuclear explosions. They wore no shielding, and were merely dusted off afterwards. Today, thanks in large part to the antinuclear movement of the eighties, as well as the Ban the Bomb movement of the late fifties and early sixties, there is a greater awareness of the issue. But there is little understanding, even today, of the true nature of Reich's research.

Space does not allow a full discussion of Reich's biography, but those interested won't find a better place to start than with Myron Sharaf's **Fury On Earth**. When Reich first discovered the specifically biological energy he called orgone, he waited a long time before publishing anything about it. He knew how crazy it all sounded, and was unsure himself until he verified the phenomena under a variety of experimental protocols. One such experiment, TO-T, measured the temperature difference between an orgone box (constructed with alternating layers of metal and wood), and a similarly constructed box that lacked the metal lining, but had the same capacity for insulation. An orgone box is generally warmer than the outside temperature. I have verified this phenomena myself. Moreover, the temperature difference varies as a result of changes in the atmosphere. A change in the weather can increase or decrease the temperature differential.

Think about it: if you had two boxes, and left them inside your garage, wouldn't you expect them to be pretty close to room temperature over time? If I could construct a box such that it remained warmer by four or more degrees for extended periods of time, wouldn't you want to know where that heat came from? I've had many scientifically trained people scoff at me at the very possibility, or say there must be some very simple reason for why this is so.

Albert Einstein was one person who found the question intriguing enough to invite Reich to his home to demonstrate the effect. Reich had written him a cautious letter in the hopes that this "Father of the Atom Bomb" would recognize the experiment's results violated the Second Law of Thermodynamics, the law of entropy, which states that equal volumes tend to equalize temperature.

Reich traveled to Princeton with several devices with which to demonstrate the orgone. He described his long session with Einstein as a meeting of minds. Einstein observed the phenomena, and said, "If this is true, it would be a bombshell for Physics."

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**The real tragedy in Reich's life and death was the silence and obscurity that greeted his fantastic discoveries.**

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**Reich found that there is no shielding possible against the biological effects of nuclear radiation.**

Indeed, because it was at fundamental variance with Einstein's theory of relativity. Einstein's biographers have painted this meeting in a ridiculous light, saying it was an example of Einstein's eccentricity. Perhaps, but an exchange of letters, which Reich published later, belies this assumption.

Einstein met once again with Reich and then dropped the matter. An assistant offered a simplistic and contrived explanation, that the effect was due to "convection" between the air above and below the table upon which the accumulator had been placed. Reich responded with a long letter which described the protocols under which he answered this objection. He buried the accumulator underground, removing the possibility of such convection. The temperature differential increased under these conditions. He concluded the letter with an agonizing and heart rending appeal for respect and consideration. Reich did not receive it. Einstein discontinued the correspondence.

When rumors circulated that Einstein had tested the device and found it worthless, Reich published the full correspondence including Einstein's statement that the temperature differential had been clearly observed.

A decade later, the Oranur experiment revealed the folly in casual use of nuclear radiation. A scandal stirred up by leftist magazines talking about Reich's "sex-cult" alongside right-wing attacks from ministers and schoolmarms brought the crisis to a head. The FDA launched a multi-million dollar investigation of the orgone accumulator, declared it a fraud, and set about bringing criminal proceedings against Reich. Reich's FBI files reveal a blistering blizzard of letters directed towards getting rid of Reich, from doctors in the AMA threatened by such a simply constructed device threatening their practices, from the Atomic Energy Commission advising the FDA what "a thorn in the side" Reich had been.

Conspiracy theories abound as to the nature of Reich's death, and his own daughter, Eva Reich, M. D., believes that he was murdered. Reich died only two months from his parole date. The official cause of death was heart attack, and the autopsy showed enough formaldehyde in Reich's system to interfere with testing for other compounds. In the final analysis, the real tragedy in Reich's life and death was the silence and obscurity that greeted his fantastic discoveries. These discoveries are being used today under different names and guises. As replication after replication of Reich's experimental findings pile in today, there is still a conspiracy of silence around the issues. Those who know, don't say. I am constantly surprised how many people know about Reich.

Why was Reich murdered? Those who can understand what he says at the end of the book **The Einstein Affair** will know: "Einstein succeeded in fascinating the first half of the twentieth century just because he had emptied space. Emptying space, reducing the whole universe to a static nothing, was the only theory that would satisfy the desert-like character structure of man of this age. Empty, immobile space and a desert character structure fit well together. It was a last attempt on the part of armored men to withstand and withhold knowledge of a universe full of life energy, pulsating in many rhythms, always in a state of development and change; in one word, functional and not mechanistic, mystical or relativistic. It was the last barrier, in scientific terms, to the final break-down of the human armoring."

**Jim Martin runs *Flatland*, a mail-order news stand that offers unusual lore and literature, including much on Wilhelm Reich. POB 2420, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-2420.**

# Or Was It The Sins of the Air Force?

**by Kenn Thomas**

Indeed. Reich suggested in **The Einstein Affair** that Modju (1)--Reich's acronym for conspirators from Moscow--"had done a job" on Albert Einstein's interest in the orgone. A **New York Times** article from March 17, 1950 cited at the end of the book reports the return to Communist Poland of an Einstein associate, Dr. Leopold Infeld, to organize educational programs for the country's "progressive government (2). **The Einstein Affair** does not give an indication as to whether or not Reich had reason to believe Dr. Infeld to be the assistant who explained away the accumulator's temperature difference. He certainly had reason to believe European Communists were hostile to his work, as it earned him only enmity and rejection from the German and Dutch CPs.

The threads of conspiracy surrounding Reich were difficult enough to follow during his life; thirty years later the task has become impossible. Consider the Mata Hari scenario for his death as an instance: Reich moved to Washington, DC at the behest of his last paramour, a former HEW employee who "would sometimes disappear for days on end without warning," (3) according to the memoirs of Reich's last wife, and who had contact with the FBI after his death, as reflected in its files. Elsewhere, of course, the relationship is portrayed as a loving one; Reich deepest passion, in fact, during his most troubled time.

Certainly the visibility of **The Oranur Experiment** (it had been reported upon widely by the news media in Maine and Arizona) and the implications it had on the use of nuclear energy made him an apt candidate for subterfuge by the government and the nuclear power industry. And they *were* paying attention: it is ironic, sad and revealing that Eisenhower used Reich's phrase, "Atoms For Peace," to help promote nuclear power.

Reich had developed another device, the cloudbuster, which harnessed orgone energy to help deal with the threat of nuclear radiation. However, he discovered a second and third use for the machine: weather modification and as a defense against unidentified flying objects. In his last book, **Contact With Space Oranur Second Report, 1951-1956** (4), and to his associates toward the end of his life, Reich insisted that the Air Force had a keen interest in his UFO work. Reich claimed as his own a report that Edward Ruppelt, author of a popular paperback still commonly found at book fairs, **The Report On Unidentified Flying Objects** (5), asserted "had circulated around high command levels of intelligence." (Reich and Ruppelt both also discuss UFO films that were included in a 1956 movie, **Unidentified Flying Objects**; videocassette copies are available to Steamshovel Press readers.)

Even Reich's defenders tread warily on his UFO theories, some seeing his protestations that the Air Force took him seriously as eccentricity or stress related paranoia, some viewing them simply as a decline in his reasoning faculty. Considering the zeal with which the Air Force no doubt coveted "death ray" research as part of its Cold War arsenal, however, and particularly in light of recent revelations about the extent of government interest in flying saucers, it is not unreasonable and requires no belief in UFOs to take Reich at his word. Another clue: Reich's last manuscript, **Creation**, purportedly detailing an anti-gravity theory, disappeared at his death, although copies may have been smuggled out of the Lewisberg prison by its librarian or Reich's attorney. (6)

"One must *live* things to judge them," Reich notes in **Contact With Space**. That he was killed in prison as surely as was Jack Ruby seems certain, but the fading trail of history leaves only questions as to why.

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**The threads of conspiracy surrounding Reich were difficult enough to follow during his life; thirty years later the task has become impossible.**

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**Notes:**

1. From *Mocenigo*, who turned Giordano Bruno over to the Inquisition; and *Djugashvili*, the real name of Joseph Stalin.

2. **The Einstein Affair**, Orgone Institute Press, Rangeley, Maine, 1953.

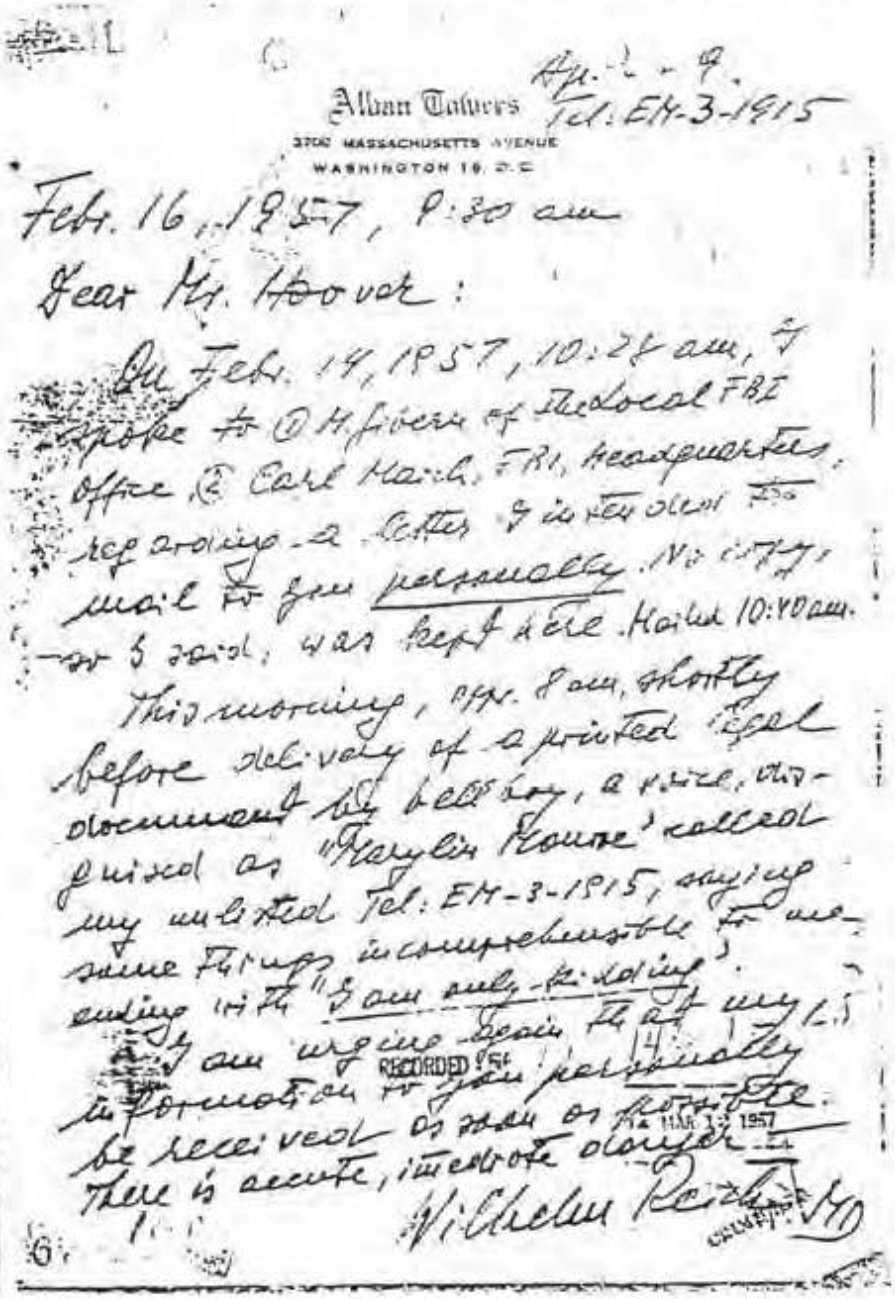
3. Reich, Ilse Ollendorf, **Wilhelm Reich A Personal Biography**, Avon Books, New York, 1969, p. 166.

4. Reich, Wilhelm, **Contact With Space Oranur Second Report 1951-1956**, CORE Pilot Press, New York, 1957.

5. Ruppelt, Edward J., **The Report On Unidentified Flying Objects**, Ace Books, 1956.

6. Eden, Jerome, **Sincerely, Elsworth Baker**, Eden Press, 1988, pp. 107-108.

**Steamshovel Press co-editor Kenn Thomas' radio program, *Off The Beaten Path*, is broadcast on KDHX FM 88.1 in St. Louis, Missouri on Thursdays from 7:00 to 7:30 PM.**



Hyp. 2 - 9.

Alban Towers Tel: EM-3-1915

3700 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
WASHINGTON 16, D. C.

Feb. 16, 1957, 9:30 am

Dear Mr. Hoover:

On Feb. 14, 1957, 10:25 am, I spoke to an Officer of the Local FBI Office (Carl Hauch, FBI, Headquarters) regarding a letter I intended to mail to you personally. No copy, as I said, was kept here. Mailed 10:40 am.

This morning, appr. 8 am, shortly before delivery of a printed legal document by a process server, disguised as "Mayflower House" called my unlisted Tel: EM-3-1915, saying some things incomprehensible to me, ending with "I am only trying". I am urging again that my information to you personally be received as soon as possible. There is acute, immediate danger.

RECORDED 54
MAR 13 1957

Wilhelm Reich MD

page 48

# Book Reviews

**Apocalypse Culture, edited by Adam Parfrey**
**Feral House, 362 pp., $12.95**

Did anyone notice that George Bush's forty day jihad in the Persian Gulf was precipitated by a series of United Nations resolutions hovering frighteningly around the number 666? Few news sources reported which resolution actually used the magic number—inlaid on the rubber stamp of the Great Beast according to the cosmology of St. John—and the silence was suspicious. Was it being reserved for a special purpose? The media certainly didn't restrict End Times rants to the superstitious Iraqis; it did make large mention of the $666 million Germany plans to send to Israel in foreign aid. In the Reagan days of Armageddonism and the Evil Empire, this would have been big news.

But Apocalypse rarely goes out of fashion in America. This book, in fact, seems to take as it premise that the irrationalism and paranoia of apocalyptic thinking have become a dominant mode of national expression. **Apocalypse Culture** provides more of a sampling than a survey of the phenomenon, but it also offers some discussion of its roots and purpose. "It was my recurring childhood game to believe that I could avert disaster (car crashes, atomic bombs, etc.) by imagining the calamity while holding my breath," editor Adam Parfey confesses in underscoring the universality of the impulse. "It is entirely possible that **Apocalypse Culture** is the outgrowth of this kind of superstition."

Parfrey contributes the opening overview of historic werewolfism and its modern manifestations, replete with an illustration of a fanged and hairy Charles Manson. Parfrey argues for the re-emergence of the wolf archetype as "some measure [of] psychic preparation for the millenial calamities that are thought to lie ahead." The chapter head a section on "Apocalypse Theologies" that includes interviews with several notorious weirdos: Karen Greenlea, a necrophiliac arrested in 1979 for having sex with a corpse after abducting it from the mortuary that employed her; "Frank," a psychopath who publishes "handy hints for messier massacres" newsletters from prison and promises only to control his lust for mass murder for a few years after his release; G. G. Allin, whose masturbatory gesticulations and fecal feeding on the rock'n'roll stage got him incarcerated; and child pornographer Peter Sotos ("Humanitarians [are] very enjoyable indeed. Often their tears and wails and pain over molested children and slaughtered co-eds can be very exciting.") The section also contains the prison writings of schizophrenics; the flesh-piercing practices of Fakir Musafar; additive and subtractive surgical practices; and an argument for self-castration.

**Apocalypse Culture** would read like the print version of the **Faces of Death** video series were it not for the book's insights on the meaning and tenor of cultural trends. In an essay on the case against art, John Zerzan argues that "we see in art ever more fitting parables of its end...'serious' music is long dead and popular music deteriorates; poetry nears collapse...and the novel is eclipsed by non-fiction as the only way to write seriously." To this, David Peel adds a report on the millenial/apocalyptic dimensions of nano technology: "we'll probably reach a stage at which every subtle nuance of imagination and consciousness can be realized, stored and displayed through machinery." With these and other arguments, the view that emerges from **Apocalypse Culture** is not one of a culture collapsing back on religious superstitions, but one pushed to the documented extremes by exhaustive modernism.

The book's last half, "The Invisible War,"

Joe Coleman's cover painting for *Apocalypse Culture*

deals more directly with apocalypticism and its more organized and perforcely paranoid dimensions. It includes essays by Anton LaVey warning against microwave radiation, ultrasonic and subsonic targetting, and even three day weekends as "catechisms of demoralization." Parfrey contributes both a historical survey of eugenics and a report on Ron J. Steele, a prophetic author who makes it plain that Michael Jackson is Lucifer and the UPC code is the devil's own rubber stamp. The section also reprints part of Wilhelm Reich's **Contact With Space**, documenting his bouts with UFOs. Nothing here is presented as a lampoon or as an exposure of human embarrassments, but as serious ideological undercurrents of the mainstream.

**Apocalypse Culture** concludes with an attempt by Dennis Stillings to define war imagery in the post-atomic era. "This time around we are not confronted with 'babe wrapped in swaddling clothes,' which is easy enough to accept, but with a 'rough beast, its hour come 'round at last,' that's slouched toward Almagordo to be born." Well, maybe. Since Stallings wrote those words, of course, the Persian Gulf War has come and gone and it wasn't the end of the world for apocalypticists. The Big One is always just ahead, even if the empire looks less evil these days and even less like an empire. The terms of the apocalypse debate have changed just a bit since the publication of this book. George Bush, of course, is supported by the same lunatic religious rightists who would like to end it all in one big blow out for the Lord, so **Apocalypse Culture** has not lost much of its relevance. It's just that the Bush style, the New World Order, has been one of smaller, more manageable mini-apocalypses providing signposts to that calamitous end.

**The Idle Warriors by Kerry Thornley**
**IllumiNet, 265 pp., $10.95**

Kerry Thornley's novel about malaise among soldiers stationed in post-war Japan has more to recommend it than its stature as a historic curiosity. IllumiNet Press' edition is the first complete publication of Thornley's novel about his Marine chum, Lee Harvey Oswald, written a full year before the Kennedy assasination. But it includes intersting new introductions by the author and David S. Lifton, whose compulsive commitment to applied physics lifted the JFK debate to new levels of macabre speculation. With Oliver Stone poised to deify Jim Garrison in a soon to be released flick (that Lifton has called "Mr. Garrison Goes To Washington"), reading Lifton's retelling of the Garrison-Thornley legal entanglements should be sobering to assassination buffs. For his part, Thornley suggests in his preface a deeper involvement with the events of November 22 while apologizing for the macho-Marine style and the conclusions of **The Idle Warriors**, that Oswald defected to the Soviet Union because of the aforementioned malaise. Was Thornley brainwashed to concoct this cover story?

Thornley is probably best known as one of the pair that half-perceived, half-created the Discordian Society, a lampoon chaos-worshipping cult popular among Robert Anton Wilson's readers, at a bowling alley in Richard Nixon's hometown. The product of that meeting, **Principia Discordia**, also has been reprinted by IllumiNet with a new introduction and a new book by Thornley, **Zenarchy**, is available too. **Zenarchy** imparts wisdom gleaned from a variety of humorous and hippy-esque sources, Alan Watts, Wilson, Leary and Camden Benares among them, and gets truly weird only when Thornley discusses government pogroms to create "transistorized untouchables."

Unfortunately, **The Idle Warriors** holds out the promise of more details concerning the Thornley-Oswald link for an as yet unpublished effort. Thornley's speculation that he and Oswald were both part of a Nazi breeding experiment are left documented elsewhere. Until that one surfaces, IllumiNet has presented here enough mondo fodder to keep the ball rolling. One other detail: Oswald's character, named Johnny Shellburn in the book, has a look-alike friend often mistaken as his twin!

**Who Killed John Lennon? by Fenton Bresler**
**St. Martin's Press, 309 pp., $17.95**

Ever since the abrupt and drastic rip in the fabric of the American psyche at the time of the John F. Kennedy assassination, the fundamental mind-set of most discerning Americans has been to expect the most unexpected events; to be prepared to believe that which up to that point was unbelievable. All and any are suspect, particularly those institutions that previously had been the most trusted.

This on-the-edge mentality has been reinforced in the last quarter of the century by the

atrocities and deceptions of Vietnam, the revelations concerning Watergate and, most recently, the unearthing of information about the Iran-contra affair.

And now, almost 10 years after the crime was committed, British lawyer and journalist (*The Chinese Mafia*) Fenton Bresler puts forth the thesis in **Who Killed John Lennon?** that the U. S. government's Central Intelligence Agency executed the politically active rock star by use of a mind-controlled, robotic **Manchurian Candidate**-type assassin.

Ludicrous, even in an era of UFO and everyday Elvis sightings. Preposterous, stretching the limits of credibility, even for a generation of veterans of post-psychedelia.

But is it? One has to look no further than the research and the U.S. government's documentation of the late '50s and early '60s to find that the phenomena of mind control and thought manipulation need not be confined to the milieu of science fiction writers.

In the early chapters of his book, Bresler points out clearly much of the evidence of government involvement with political assassination and mind-control research gleaned from U.S. government documents. He reports on Senator Frank Church's Congressional Committee of Inquiry, which in the '70s disclosed that "American officials encouraged and were privy to plots which resulted in the deaths of Rafael Trujillo in the Dominican Republic, Ngo Dinh Diem in Vietnam and Rene Schneider in Chile" (not to mention the murder of Congolese Prime Minister Patrice Lumumba or the numerous attempts on the life of Fidel Castro). The author details the workings of what Daniel Sheehan, the civil rights lawyer from the Christic Institute, labeled a "generic program" available to take out individuals who are felt to be at odds with designated U.S. policies. This program continues to the present day.

The CIA was created as an offshoot of the post-World War II Office of Strategic Services, as a bureau to investigate foreign threats to national security. Bresler relates several incidents demonstrating how the agency has violated its own charter by unwarranted surveillance and, in the case of experimentation with mind-altering behavior modification, has used unsuspecting American citizens. This information is not new, but seen in the over view of political activist John Lennon as victim of programmed assassin, it gives support to the author's theory.

Bresler recounts in detail Lennon's unique blend of anti-war politics and rock & roll, and how it was significant in creating the anti-establishment ethos of the late '60s and early '70s. His supposition is that malevolent political powers-that-be were not to allow the ex-Beatle's influence to take hold once again when the singer/songwriter reactivated his career at the start of the Reagan '80s.

Relevant episodes in the life of Mark David Chapman, Lennon's killer, have also been scrupulously examined, such as Chapman's long association with the YMCA and its link to the CIA, his trip to Beirut in 1975 and his involvement with born-again, right-wing Christian fundamentalists. Unlike Albert Goldman, perhaps the most scurrilous of Lennon's biographers, the attorney/journalist personally interviewed hundreds of individuals involved with the case, including many close associates of Chapman's, and John Lennon's widow, Yoko Ono.

It may have been financial limitations or a

"The education system in this country is working perfectly. It's doing exactly what they want. It's creating cloned young students who are motivated by fear and greed."

**-Timothy Leary, Pasadena, CA, 1991**

"No point in waiting for the nuclear holocaust. That's an alibi. The catastrophe has already taken place. The psychic catastrophe has taken place. The flood has come, we're in the midst of this catastrophe now. So what is the appropriate behavior in a catastrophe, in a flood? To keep afloat and people are trying to blow up balloons, trying to grab on to a twig or a piece of wood floating by. Or if you're particularly high spirited and gallant, you may be able to wave to a friend who is sweeping past you on the current." **-Leonard Cohen to a television interviewer, 1988**

publisher's deadline that inhibited him, but Bresler's only real flaw is his failure to press on, to follow through on some of his most significant leads. For example, he illustrates in meticulous detail that Mark Chapman had a three-day layover in Chicago right before he reached his destination of murder in New York City, but Chapman's activities were barely reported. It is only suggested that at this point his homicidal program was activated to motivate him to proceed to New York to shoot Lennon. Also, a certain "Gene Scott" (the only pseudonym in **Who Killed John Lennon?**) is not thoroughly investigated. After it is mentioned that Scott and Chapman "have complex undertones to their apparently still continuing friendship" and that Scott has been described as "mysterious" and a "bad influence" on Chapman, Scott is discounted for lack of cooperation and a terse phone conversation with the author.

Still, **Who Killed John Lennon?** brings together in one volume an abundance of information and critical evidence in a case that is potentially so much more than fodder for the tabloids and fanzines that have thus far reported on it. This serious examination of the case instead opens a most ominous can of worms by questioning how an ostensibly open society deals with its most vocal critics and proponents of participatory democracy.

*-Phil Gounis*

Jon Wiener, history professor at UC-Irvine and author of **Come Together**, a 1984 Lennon biography based on FBI files he received through the Freedom of Information Act, is now taking legal action to pursue more files the FBI wants to withold for national security reasons. Weiner apparently harbors no suspicions similar to Bresler's but maintains that the files will reveal a great deal more about government harassment of figures like Lennon. The FBI will no doubt claim that withholding the files will protect it from revealing intelligence gathering methods to the public.

*-Kenn Thomas*

**Open Magazine Pamphlet Series**
**Open Media, $3.50 @**

"Media Control, The Spectacular Achievements of Propaganda" by linguist Noam Chomsky is the best of these. In explaining the horrific spectacle of Americans treating the Persian Gulf War as some kind of video entertainment, Chomsky reviews the history of public relations in the U. S. His study begins with the earliest use of PR to subvert labor organizing and continues to the mindless sloganeering of "supporting the troops" used even by otherwise peaceful Americans during the Gulf conflict.

Such sentiments are manufactured, argues Chomsky, by propagandists who hold a classist conception of democracy: that a responsible, specialized class makes the decisions and it pushes stupid mob around to carry them out. Chomsky outlines the usual means by which this accomplished: distorting history; demonizing an enemy; ignoring sensible alternatives, etc. (To date, what makes the Bush administration's intentions in Iraq so obvious is the absence of contact with any form of Iraqi opposition.) What's lacking in the essay, however, is any sense that the "bewildered herd " has any control over these manipulations and therefore shares little of the blame. Warfare culture seems like a much more difficult thing to accomplish than with mere condescension.

Chomsky certainly identifies the public relations tactics used by the government to support unsupportable policies, but he doesn't address why people fall for it. Otherwise enlightened minds on the UC-Berkeley campus recently denounced Bay Area bookstores for sponsoring a Chomsky's foreign policy talk. Chomsky's own linguistics research has been funded by the Army and the Air Force. While ostensibly arguing for a conception of democracy truer to the common sense meaning of the word, the important issue of

what to do about a citizenry that actually prefers to be marginalized or terrified or whatever is left to be dealt with by others. Remaining are not only reverberations of Walt Kelly's admonition that we have met the enemy and he is us.but of the question "why create a fascist state when you don't need one?"

A wartime interview with John Stockwell and essays by Howard Zinn and Michael Emory are also available in this back-pocket format series.

**The COINTELPRO Papers by Ward Churchill and Jim Vander Wall**
**South End Press, 467 pp., $16.00**

Authors of **The COINTELPRO Papers** previously produced **Agents of Repression: The FBI's Secret Wars Against the Black Panther Party and the American Indian Movement**, and this effort purports to let FOIPA documents support their earlier conclusions by reprinting many of the actual artifacts. Reproduced in total are revealing FBI memoranda that reflect COINTELPRO's expansion from a counter-intelligence program directed against the Communist Party to one of "extra-legal" harassment against civil rights leaders, the leaders of Puerto Rican and Black independence movements, AIM, the New Left and others. The book begins with a letter by J. Edgar Hoover from as early as 1919 illegally planning to make a legal case against Marcus Garvey and end with a 1976 FBI memo arguing that its right to suppress dissent is superior to the free speech and privacy rights of citizens. AIM leader and poet/musician John Trudell contributes a poem fragment as the book's forward.

One chapter also does a lot to explain all the magic marker strokes and deletions on the FOIPA documents; what kinds of things were left out and why and the legal authority for such censorship. Even with that caveat, however, the paper trail only goes so far in documenting COINTELPRO crimes—hate mail harassment that in some cases was no doubt easy to ignore and dopy plans to bully Martin Luther King into killing himself, etc. While **The COINTELPRO Papers** also provides a narrative describing FBI support of the Klan and many other murderous activities, questions about on-going operations involving the assassination of domestic political dissidents, brainwashing programs and links between the intelligence community and affairs/experiments like the Jonestown massacre and the spread of AIDs, are left wanting answers. Despite the book's many revelations, the notion remains that many more of the secret government's behaviors go undocumented, certainly well beyond the feeble reach of the Freedom of Information Act.

**Positively Bob Dylan by Michael Krogsgaard**
**Popular Culture Ink, 498 pp., $55**

In 1986 Bob Dylan helped publicize a recorded effort by John Trudell and another musician, the late Jesse Ed Davis, entitled **AKA Graffiti Man**, probably the only rock recording to mention John Lennon as a possible victim of a **Manchurian Candidate**-type plot. Dylan played the tape as pre-show music for many of his concerts that year and spoke highly of it in **Rolling Stone**. In addition to giving the premise more than usual national exposure, it reminded Dylan's audience that, now at age 50, America's premiere singer-songwriter can claim great success as a survivor. In the course of his long and varied life, much speculation has surrounded many public events in Dylan's life: was it LSD or the JFK assassination that transformed his Woody Guthriesque folk tunes into the surrealist visions of *Highway 61 Revisited*? Did he fall victim to a Christian cabal during his conversion in the late 70s, was he brainwashed like Tim Leary suggested, or did it have something to do with Jonestown?

This book does not ask, answer or document these questions except in the most oblique way. Krogsgaard lists every Dylan tape available to the international network of Dylan collectors and afficionados, replete with song lists and the names of musicians in every band. It is a formidable effort, one that began with its first publication in Denmark in 1981 and a second in 1988. This volume is part of Popular Culture Ink's Rock & Roll Reference series. Its enormous size and price tag puts it out of the range of those with just a general interest in Dylan, but to enthusiasts of his music as well as students of the popular music industry and its history, it is an extraordinary work and a model for as yet undocumented and under-documented musical careers.

Such readers can imagine improvements: **Positively Bob Dylan** does not contain transcriptions of Dylan's on-stage banter, as wild and weird in 1966 as it was during the preachy period of the early '80s; lyric variations are unmentioned; even annotations like the first electric concert or the first acoustic version of "Desolation Row" are missing; and new information about the extant recordings surfaces all the time among Dylan fans, notorious for relishing every nuance. The wealth of secondary sources recounting Dylan's

backstage and off-stage life, perhaps included as marginalia to the tape lists, might actually yield some new information about conspiracies in Dylan's life. A massive bibliography of the Dylan-book cottage industry included as an appendix would also be a valuable addition.

Alas, Krogsgaard's efforts are Herculean enough, and he does an admirable job of explaining his intentions and methods in the preface. Short of expandable, updatable and relational databases, this is as thorough a book as can be produced.

One plot that Krogsgaard should have included concerns the earliest known Dylan tape, a May 1960 tape made in St. Paul, Minnesota. Although it appeared in the first edition, Krogsgaard no longer includes it because the consensus among one group of fans is that it's fake. Like the Zapruder film, an "official" version—or omission—should be looked at askance and some discussion of the tape at least would have been in order here. In any event, this is an argument for specialists and detracts little from an otherwise spectacular accomplishment in reference research.

**Conspiracies, Cover-Ups and Crimes**
**by Jonathan Vankin**
**Paragon House, 319 pp., $24.95**

Jonathan Vankin seems to have written a book about conspiracies for the uninitiated. **Conspiracies, Cover-Ups and Crimes** touches a lot of bases and goes into just enough detail with each to leave the reader impressed that he or she has some comprehensive view of undercurrents in the vast realm of conspiracy speculation. Of course, this is precisely why the book cannot be trusted. Vankin takes great care not to lampoon the subjects of his study and, in fact, comes away as somewhat a believer himself. He never strays far from the perspective outlined in the book's introduction, however: "I've steeped my mind in conspiracy theories, figuring the only way to truly understand them is to see the world from their point of view...I've emerged with my sanity in tact...coming back to port with a new understanding..." Despite his good intentions, Vankin allows his readers an unshaken assumption that some common sense plateau out there puts all this nonsensical conspiracy stuff in perspective. Anyone with familiarity in these waters realizes that Vankin hasn't gone as deep as it gets.

Tidbits like Lyndon LaRouche's belief that the Grateful Dead actually work for British intelligence proliferate in the book. Also, Vankin's treatment of Kerry Thornley in the first chapter spells out Thornley's theory that a Nazi breeding experiment produced him and Lee Harvey Oswald in more detail here than elsewhere. (Thornley says that Vankin is thinking about writing a Thornley biography.) But the UFO chapter fails to even mention Zechariah Sitchin's scholarship on the possible extraterrestrial origins of the ancient Sumerians. Sitchin's work supplants that of the pseudonymous William Bradley (**The Gods of Eden**), discussed at length by Vankin, and includes interesting ruminations about the UFO encounters of a Soviet probe of the Martian moon Phobos that would have added much to the chapter. Vankin does everything but mention the name of John Lear, leaving this figure a shadowy one when some investigation and commentary would have given much even to UFO conspiracy specialists. Topics from Reich to the Gemstone File go slighted or ignored.

Still, this is the book to give to skeptics, not to convert them but to provide an overview without souring them with too much detail. One chapter title makes a good point: *there is no word for rational fear*.

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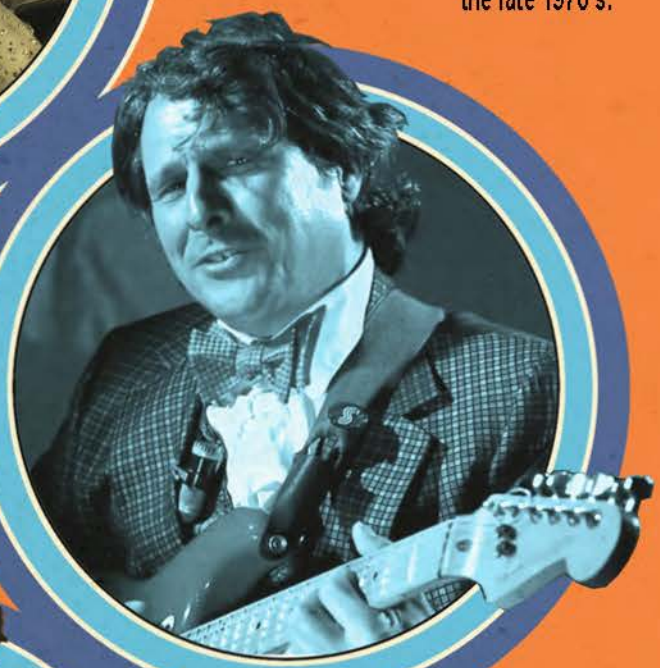

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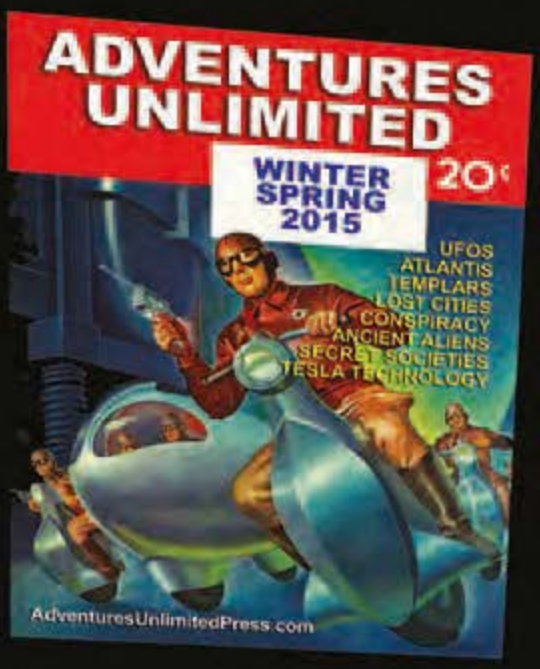


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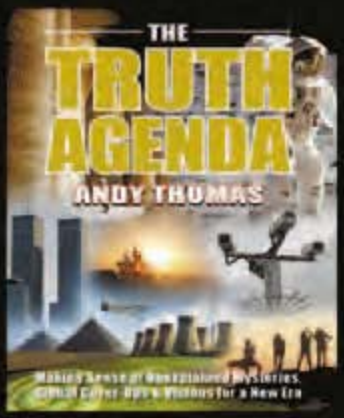


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